# Daily Report

# Central Eurasia

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1 April 1994

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*FBIS-SOV-94-063* *1 April 1994*

CONTENTS

**INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

UN Conference on Disarmament Adjourns Until May *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 1
Butrus-Ghali Appoints UN Disarmament Conference Chief *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 1
CSCE Chief Sees Room for CIS Peace Role *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 31 Mar]* ..... 1

**INTERREGIONAL AFFAIRS**

Nazarbayev Explains Eurasian Union Proposal *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 31 Mar]* ..... 4
CIS Parliamentarians Hold Talks in Baku *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 4
ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 1 Apr ..... 4

**RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

Yeltsin Not To Be 'Hurried' Into Joining PFP *[INTERFAX]* ..... 6
Kozyrev Confirms Russia To Join Partnership for Peace *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 6
Kostikov Explains Process for Joining PFP *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 6
Duma's Lukin on Terms for Joining PFP *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 1 Apr]* ..... 6
Lukin Questions Usefulness of NATO's Partnership *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 7
Kokoshin, French Envoy Discuss World Security *[SEGODNYA 1 Apr]* ..... 7
Fleet Prevents NATO Ships From Entering Black Sea *[INTERFAX]* ..... 8
Yeltsin Expresses 'Cautious Interest' in Euro-Asian Union *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 8
Security Council's Lobov Ends Meetings With U.S. Officials *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 8
U.S. Commerce Secretary Urges Abolishing Barriers *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 31 Mar]* ..... 8
Brown 'Cautiously Optimistic' on Expanding Ties *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 9
U.S., Russian Troops Plan Joint Exercises *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 9
UN Secretary General Arrives on 5-Day Visit *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 9
Participation in Cocom Successor Sought *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 10
Russian Border Patrol Fired On at Estonian Border *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 10
Britian's Expulsion of Russian Diplomat Viewed *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 10
Foreign Espionage in Russia Viewed *[Moscow TV]* ..... 10
Government To Reduce Gas Supplies to Belarus 1 Apr *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 11
Plans To Reduce Gas Supplies Denied *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 12
Yeltsin Representative on Moldovan-Dniester Talks *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 12
Mediator on Progress in Georgian-Abkhazian Talks *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 1 Apr]* ..... 12
Border Guard Troops To Stay in Tajikistan *[INTERFAX]* ..... 13
Chernomyrdin Meets Hungarian President *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 13
Yeltsin Receives Polish Sejm Speaker *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 13
Kozyrev on 'Paradoxical Friendship' With Poland *[INTERFAX]* ..... 14
Kozyrev Meets Oleksy, Criticizes Polish Press *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 14
Diplomat Says No Threat Posed To Poland *[INTERFAX]* ..... 14
Churkin Believe Zagreb Agreement Will Hold *[INTERFAX]* ..... 14
Churkin on Future Moves in Duma Bosnia Debate *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 1 Apr]* ..... 15
300 Additional Troops Destined for Bosnia *[Radio Rossii]* ..... 15
Increasing Foreign Involvement in Ex-Yugoslavia Eyed *[PRAVDA 31 Mar]* ..... 16
Foreign Ministry Welcomes Israel-PLO Accords *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 16
Foreign Minister Concerned at West Bank, Gaza Violence *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 16
Iraqi Reparations to Russian Concerns Total $2 Billion *[IZVESTIYA 31 Mar]* ..... 17
Latest Death Reveals Risks to Russians in Algeria *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 31 Mar]* ..... 17
Zhirinovskiy Seeks Cooperation With Japan's LDP *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 17
Yeltsin Aide Denies Kurils Withdrawal Planned *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 18
Japanese Ships Warned Over Maritime Violations *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 18
Poltoranin Seeks Closer Ties With Asia *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 18
Joint Commission With Mongolia Meets on Borders *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 19

**RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS**

Yeltsin Says Civic Peace Accord May Be Signed 28 Apr *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 20
Accord 'Open to Discussion' *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 20
Draft Agreement Outlined *[INTERFAX]* ..... 20
Rybkin Supports Yeltsin Against Extremists *[Hamburg DIE WOCHE 30 Mar]* ..... 21
Yeltsin May Tackle 'Hooligans' in Reelection Bid *[Moscow Radio]* ..... 22
Kostikov on Zhirinovskiy, Rutskoy Running for Office *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 23
Zhirinovskiy Charges Cabinet With Inaction *[INTERFAX]* ..... 23

Yabloko Chief Calls Zhirinovskiy 'Paid KGB Informant' *[SEGODNYA 1 Apr]* ..... 23
Kostikov on Instigators of Versions of Coup Story *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 23
Russia's Choice Party Sets Out Program of Reform *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 24
Rumyantsev, Boldyrev, Others Create 'People's Alliance' *[SEGODNYA 1 Apr]* ..... 24
Official Discusses Presidential Security Service *[OBSHCHAYA GAZETA 1-7 Apr]* ..... 24

**Economic Issues**

Fedorov: No Reforms in Last 3 Months *[Moscow Radio]* ..... 25
Former Finance Minister Warns of Economy Collapsing *[Hamburg DIE WOCHE 30 Mar]* ..... 25
Yeltsin Promises To Pay Debts to Miners in Apr *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 26
Shokhin Presents Payment Timetable to Coal Miners *[INTERFAX]* ..... 26
Agriculture Minister on Possible Tariff Revision *[INTERFAX]* ..... 27

**Military Issues**

Baykonur Agreement Hailed *[TRUD 30 Mar]* ..... 27
Arms Trade Chief Sees $20 Billion in Sales *[SEGODNYA 31 Mar]* ..... 28
Navy Says Radiation Normal After Sub Sinking *[INTERFAX]* ..... 28

**Regional Affairs**

Rybkin Meets With Yeltsin, Comments on Nazarbayev Plan *[INTERFAX]* ..... 28
Novosibirsk Election Results Reported *[VECHERNIY NOVOSIBIRSK 29 Mar]* ..... 29
'Bureaucrats' Victorious in Rostov Elections *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 31 Mar]* ..... 29
Five Elections in Tatarstan Ruled Valid *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 31 Mar]* ..... 30
Growing Link Between Foreign Business, Petersburg Crime *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 30 Mar]* ..... 31
Large-Scale Crime Swoop Carried Out in St. Petersburg *[IZVESTIYA 31 Mar]* ..... 31
Petersburgers Fear Administrative Changes Endanger Services *[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 31 Mar]* . 32
Kazan Hosts Conference of Regional Law Enforcement Officers
*[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 31 Mar]* ..... 32
Cause of Mezhdurechensk Crash Still Not Known *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 1 Apr]* ..... 32
Omsk Units To Comprise Cossack Draftees *[PRAVDA 31 Mar]* ..... 33
Planned Bryansk CW Destruction Plant Opposed *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 31 Mar]* ..... 33
'Linear Proton Accelerator' Offers Safe Nuclear Power *[Moscow TV]* ..... 33

**UKRAINE**

**International Affairs**

Kravchuk, Canadian Foreign Minister Discuss Ties *[UNIAN]* ..... 34
Agreements Signed With Canada *[UNIAN]* ..... 34
Zlenko on Results of Supreme Council Elections *[UNIAR]* ..... 34
Donbass Chooses To Speak Russian, Join CIS *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 34
Edict Promotes Cooperation With Russian Oblasts *[DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA 29 Mar]* . 35

**National Affairs**

Zlenko Appraises Nazarbayev's Eurasian Union Proposal *[UNIAR]* ..... 35
Donetsk Plebiscite Shows Support for CIS, Russia *[UNIAN]* ..... 35
Results of Crimean Elections, Violations Viewed *[KIEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI 30 Mar]* ..... 36
Crimea's Central Electoral Commission Examines Results *[UNIAN]* ..... 36
New Parliament To Take Effect After 10 Apr *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 37
Deputies Wary of 'Political Standoff' *[Kiev Radio]* ..... 38
Central Election Commission Reports on Voting *[UNIAN]* ..... 38
Crimean Tatars Question Election Results *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 38
Zlenko Warns Against Foreign Policy Review *[INTERFAX]* ..... 38
Crimean President's Military Adviser on Black Sea Fleet *[SEGODNYA 31 Mar]* ..... 38
IAEA Experts Concerned About Safety at Chernobyl *[Kiev Radio]* ..... 39

**WESTERN REGION**

**Belarus**

Hryb Says Commission Failed To Prove Officials' Guilt *[BELAPAN]* ..... 40
Deputies Conclude 13th Session *[Minsk Radio]* ..... 40
Presidential Election Previewed *[INTERFAX]* ..... 40
Parliament Fails To Adopt Corruption Resolutions *[INTERFAX]* ..... 41
Issuing of Privatization Vouchers Begins 1 Apr *[Minsk Radio]* ..... 41
Belarus Admitted to Customs Organization *[Minsk Radio]* ..... 41
Poll Shows Support for Socialism, Private Ownership *[DOBRY VECHAR 29 Mar]* ..... 41
Russia Reduces Gas Deliveries 1 Apr *[Minsk Radio]* ..... 42
Document Shows Further Decline in GDP *[BELAPAN]* ..... 42
Defense Ministry Reports Plans To Sign Bilateral Agreements *[VO SLAVU RODINY 31 Mar]* .... 42

**Moldova**
Sangheli Reelected Prime Minister *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 42
Parliament Elects Permanent Bureau *[INTERFAX]* ..... 42
State of Emergency Extended in Dniester Republic *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 43
Russian Defense Chiefs Deny Increased Attacks on 14th Army *[SEGODNYA 31 Mar]* ..... 43
Chisinau Not Considering Entry to Eurasian Union *[INTERFAX]* ..... 43
Language Conflict in Moldova Viewed *[ROMPRES]* ..... 43

**CENTRAL ASIA**

**Kazakhstan**
Nazarbayev Comments on Recent Visit to Russia *[INTERFAX]* ..... 45

**Kyrgyzstan**
Akayev Supports Kazakhstan Initiative for Eurasian Union *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 45
Russian Troop Commander Due in Bishkek To Sign Agreements *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 46
UN Allocates Funds for Narcotics Program *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 46

**CAUCASUS**

**Azerbaijan**
Iranian Senior Official: 2 Missiles Down C-130 Plane *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 47
Aliyev Receives Iranian Delegation on Crash *[Baku TV]* ..... 47
Defense Minister Mamedov Interviewed *[Baku TV]* ..... 48
Milli Majlis Gives Preliminary Approval to Resolution *[TURAN]* ..... 49
CIS Official, Russia's Kazimirov Arrive in Baku *[Baku TV]* ..... 49
Parliament Discusses Worsening Economic Situation *[TURAN]* ..... 49

**Georgia**
Authorities Regain Control of Parliament *[AFP]* ..... 49
Police Official Comments *[SNARK]* ..... 50
'Hundreds' of Armed Police Involved *[AFP]* ..... 50
Police Chief Sacked *[AFP]* ..... 51
Shevardnadze Address on Incidents *[Tbilisi Radio]* ..... 51
Gamsakhurdia Supporters Hold Rally in Tbilisi *[INTERFAX]* ..... 52
Situation Getting Worse *[ITAR-TASS]* ..... 52
Abkhaz, Georgian Officials Seek End to Conflict *[NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 31 Mar]* ..... 53
Defense Department Updates Clashes *[SNARK]* ..... 53

**BALTIC STATES**

**Estonia**
Chief of Defense Headquarters Resigns Effective 18 Apr *[ETA]* ..... 54
Defense Forces Will Call 1,000 Conscripts in Spring *[ETA]* ..... 54
Rally Declares Support for Position at Talks With Russia *[BNS]* ..... 54
Oil Tank at Base Said Leaking; Access Denied *[BNS]* ..... 54
About 20 Illegal Immigrants Being Kept Under Internment *[BNS]* ..... 55

**Latvia**
Foreign Debt for First Quarter Reported *[Riga Radio]* ..... 55
New 'Political Union of Economists' Declares Platform *[DIENA 21 Mar]* ..... 55
Official Involved in Isotope Deal Murdered 15 Mar *[DIENA 17 Mar]* ..... 56
Commander of Border Guards Brigade Resigns *[BNS]* ..... 56
Parliament in Conflict Over Troop Withdrawal *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 31 Mar]* ..... 57
Deputies Set Rules on Media Use During Local Elections *[BNS]* ..... 57

**Lithuania**
World Bank To Continue Credits, Draft New Projects *[TIESA 24 Mar]* ..... 57
Committee Chief Views Economic Reform Tasks *[TIESA 24 Mar]* ..... 58
Denies Plans To Resign *[TIESA 25 Mar]* ..... 59
Russia Refuses To Return Lithuanian Archives *[Vilnius Radio]* ..... 60
Committee Bans Commerce at Defense, Interior Ministries *[ELTA 29 Mar]* ..... 60
Security Chief on Army, Intelligence Roles *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 31 Mar]* ..... 60
Social Security Agreement With Latvia Ratified *[BNS]* ..... 61

## UN Conference on Disarmament Adjourns Until May

*LD3103230694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1531 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Konstantin Pribytkov]

[Text] Geneva, March 31 (TASS)—Talks on complete and universal nuclear test-ban began "in a good tempo". "Of course, we would like to move toward our goal more swiftly, but, since this forum is multilateral and positions of all the states have to be taken into account, one may say that the start was good enough," Grigory Berdennikov, permanent Russian representative to the United Nations, commented om the results of the first meeting of the annual session of UN conference on disarmament, which concluded here on Thursday.

Participants in the conference worked out a convention on prohibition of chemical weapons in 1992 and in January 1994 proceeded to prepare a multilateral agreement on complete nuclear test-ban.

Although the UN General Assembly unanimously supported the idea of beginning such multilateral talks in December 1993, representatives of 37 member states which participate in the conference are fully aware that they will have to face many stumbling blocks on their way to mutual accord. Control over the would-be agreement poses a most difficult problem.

Discussions on total test-ban have been going on for decades. The treaty banning nuclear-weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water, signed in Moscow in 1963, was a landmark agreement.

Russian participants in the Geneva meeting proposed that this treaty and other international agreements form a basis for defining the sphere of application of the would-be agreement on complete and universal nuclear test-ban, which should include a ban on underground nuclear-weapon tests.

They declared for interminable and indiscriminate nature of the treaty, for equality of rights and responsibilities of all the parties.

In Russia's opinion, an effective mechanism of international control over the treaty is needed; not only the nuclear powers, but also the countries, which are capable of creating nuclear weapons, should get involved.

Russia declared also for envisaging strict measures to be taken against violators, including the sanctions specified in the UN charter.

How much time will it take to work out the document? The Chinese representatives believe, that the work may be completed by 1996.

"In our opinion, it would be better to accelerate (the procedures) and coordinate, at least, major provisions by the spring of 1995, that is, before the conference on the treaty of nuclear non-proliferation begins," Berdennikov told ITAR-TASS.

"So far, there is no standard wording (of the would-be agreement). We hope, that it will be worked out in the forthcoming sessions. To this effect, however, we shall have to pass through the current preliminary stage, when the participants state their positions," he concluded.

The session of the UN conference on disarmament is to resume its work in Geneva next May.

## Butrus-Ghali Appoints UN Disarmament Conference Chief

*LD0104064894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0602 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Sitnikov]

[Text] United Nations April 1 TASS—U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali has appointed Vladimir Petrovskiy general secretary of the U.N. disarmament conference in Geneva, U.N. secretary general's official representative Joe Sills said here today.

Announcing this decision, Joe Sills said that after proper consultations with members of the disarmament conference, the U.N. secretary general has decisded to appoint director general of the U.N. branch in Geneva Vladimir Petrovskiy as disarmament conference general secretary, and also as his special representative at the conference. This decision comes into force immediately, Joe Sills said.

Joe Sills noted that Petrovskiy had been carrying out these duties on a temporary basis since December 5, 1993. Sills said that Petrovskiy will continue to carry out duties of the U.N. branch director general in Geneva.

## CSCE Chief Sees Room for CIS Peace Role

*PM3103102594 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 3*

[Interview with W. Hoynck, Secretary General of the CSCE, by Igor Belov, in Vienna, date not given: "The CSCE: For Security from Vancouver to Vladivostok"]

[Text] The range of tasks for the first secretary general in the history of the CSCE—60-year old German diplomat Wilhelm Hoynck was elected to the office around a year ago—is quite wide. First and foremost he is expected to provide administrative assistance to the chairman of the CSCE Council, who is elected for one year from among the member countries' foreign ministers. He is empowered to coordinate the operations and actions of the peacekeeping missions carried out within the CSCE framework and represent the all-Europe structure in contacts with other international organizations. On the instructions of the CSCE Council chairman the secretary general can also put forward political initiatives.

Our representative met with Wilhelm Hoynck at the CSCE Secretary General's residence in Vienna and asked him to answer a number of questions. The first question was this: What are the main tasks facing the CSCE this year?

[Hoynck] In 1994 we have fundamentally the same aim as last year. I have in mind the attempt to make a CSCE contribution to the creation of a new degree of stability in the gigantic region from Vancouver to Vladivostok. This is a very ambitious program, and I think that the CSCE is best suited to show what it can do in the sphere of preventing conflicts and in the peaceful settlement of crises. But all this must be based on the CSCE's efforts to deepen the process of the observance of commitments with regard to the human dimension. Only then will those structures aimed at ensuring the full respect of human rights and basic freedoms and the implementation of the principles of democracy and the rule of law really take root. This is a great range of tasks in which the CSCE must achieve progress.

[Belov] How do you assess the new NATO "Partnership for Peace" program? Will this program not reduce the CSCE's activeness in the efforts to establish a just and lasting peace in the general European region?

[Hoynck] Assessing the "Partnership for Peace" program is, of course, not the prime task of the CSCE secretary general. However, I would like to draw attention to the fact that a CSCE foreign ministers' joint statement gave the program a fundamentally positive assessment. I would also like to refer to the statement issued by the NATO countries' heads of state and government at their meeting in Brussels at the start of January 1994. In that statement the CSCE is again assigned a very great role. I want to emphasize that the two documents that I cited coincide on the central question. I am talking about the principle of the indivisibility of security in Europe. I believe this to be of very great significance. It is also important that the common concept of security in Europe is built on a foundation of cooperation rather than through the buildup of countermeasure forces. On this main premise or, if you will, philosophical idea it seems to me that NATO and the CSCE adhere to the same opinion. In such a system all states will occupy the place that suits them and each state individually will be able to introduce its own legitimate security interests into the system.

[Belov] What role might the CSCE play in the matter of stabilizing relations among countries within the CIS? How do you view the possible participation of Russia's Armed Forces in peacemaking missions on former Soviet Union territory?

[Hoynck] These two questions are interconnected but have different aspects nevertheless. As for the process of developing the CIS, it seems to me that it will be stable and directed toward the future if all CIS members take greater account of the principles elaborated within the CSCE framework. There is a wide spectrum of opinions, beginning with the catalogue of principles contained in the CSCE's Helsinki Final Act. This includes the principles of national sovereignty, the inviolability of borders, freedom of the choice of allies or freedom not to take part in alliances. I believe that any association of states in the region between Vancouver and Vladivostok which is founded on voluntary participation and is democratically administered would serve to strengthen stability in this region. Permit me to emphasize once more: I am profoundly convinced that, the more widely the principles of the CSCE are applied within the CIS, the firmer and more stable the CIS itself will be.

Now I should like to talk about the role of the Russian Armed forces in the peacemaking process. This is a very important and very complex question. It is complex for all the participants, primarily for those countries where conflicts are taking place which those countries themselves are incapable of ending independently. This is thus a question of countries which need outside help. Without doubt this is a complex question both for the Russian leadership, for states which are Russia's neighbors, and for all CSCE member countries. It is absolutely clear that within the CSCE framework some countries have considerably greater potential than others in this respect. It is also clear that in the course of conflicts these countries will be dealing with a request for help from neighbors near and far. There are absolutely obvious examples in this regard. I have in mind Georgia and Tajikistan. In both those countries a situation has been created which, according to the assessment of those countries themselves, could not be resolved without Russia's participation. The fact that Georgia and Tajikistan as well as the Russian leadership were committed to ensuring that the decision to provide assistance did not bear a purely bilateral character but was implemented within a multilateral framework emphasizes the CSCE's significance. Although from the viewpoint of international law help in this aspect could be purely bilateral in character. Of course, if such actions are carried out within the CSCE framework they must correspond to the CSCE's principles. It is also obvious that general powers, a kind of carte blanche, cannot be given in this matter but each specific opportunity must be examined in specific terms.

I am deeply convinced that the real interests of each of the states needing help, the interests of Russia and all the other CSCE members are best served by the approach in which all such measures and events are implemented as part of a multilateral process.

[Belov] How would you assess relations between the CIS and the CSCE?

[Hoynck] Mr Ivan Korochen, executive secretary of the CIS, recently visited us at our invitation. I would regard that visit as one of mutual acquaintance. The meetings between the CIS executive secretary and delegations from CSCE countries showed that the latter have many questions about the status of the CIS and the possibilities of cooperation. The discussions showed that the CSCE

national delegations understand very well that the CIS is a commonwealth of states in development, that the commonwealth itself emerged overnight, as it were, in an extremely difficult situation for all its members, and that the important thing now is that development should proceed in a direction corresponding to the principles of the CSCE. I believe that such contacts should be developed in the future in the interests of "transparency." Then the CIS countries and the CIS executive secretariat will have a complete understanding of what the CSCE is doing. And the CSCE delegations will deepen their knowledge of how matters are developing within the CIS.

## Nazarbayev Explains Eurasian Union Proposal

*PM3103083194 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 3*

[Unattributed report: "Nursultan Nazarbayev Suggests Creating Eurasian Union Out of CIS States"]

[Text] Kazakhstani President Nursultan Nazarbayev has put forward a proposal to create a completely new association out of the CIS countries and call it the Eurasian Union. If this idea does not meet with extensive support within the CIS, Russia and Kazakhstan could form this union, he said during a meeting with Moscow State University teaching staff and students during his official visit to Russia.

The Eurasian Union must be based, according to Nursultan Nazarbayev, on totally different principles from the CIS. They must be founded on the formation of national bodies with a view to coordinating economic, defense, and foreign policy. A Council of Eurasian Union Heads of State and Government must be set up to discuss strategic issues. The next step would be direct elections to a common parliament to coordinate the legislative activity of countries within the Eurasian Union. The creation of a real military complex necessitates the founding of a council of defense ministers, while the coordination of actions in the world arena necessitates the formation of a council of foreign ministers. A standing interstate executive secretariat must also be created for the Eurasian Union, whose membership would be appointed by the heads of state, comprising representatives of all the union's countries. This executive committee should have observer status at the United Nations and the CSCE.

According to Nursultan Nazarbayev, the creation of a Eurasian Union entails the introduction of a common identity card or citizenship for all countries in the union, mandatory formulation of coordinated economic reform programs, and the adoption of a supranational currency.

The Kazakhstani president went on to develop his idea by drawing attention to the need for a single information office for the executive secretariat. "Information must not be unfriendly; an agreement must be signed within the Eurasian Union to this effect," he stressed. A council for education, culture, and science must also be set up in order to shape a coordinated educational policy and defend and implement the rights of national minorities.

Membership of the Eurasian Union, Nursultan Nazarbayev continued, should not hamper bilateral relations with third countries. The union's basic principle is "equality, respect for the sovereignty and independence of states, the rights of the individual, and the individuality of every state." Everyone who shares these principles can be members of the Eurasian Union, the Kazakhstani leader said.

Nursultan Nazarbayev emphasized that there is no question in this case of reviving the old Soviet Union and forming an empire. There is no need to be afraid of the word "union," he said; there is after all the European Union, for instance. "We are all equal and my current visit to Russia marks recognition of that equality," the president indicated.

Today the Kazakhstani president laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Kremlin Wall.

## CIS Parliamentarians Hold Talks in Baku

*LD3104235694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1909 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva, Sergey Ostanin and Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku March 31 TASS—Azerbaijan welcomes any steps aimed at reaching a peaceful settlement of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict, Azerbaijani parliament chairman Rasul Guliyev said.

The announcement was made at a meeting with a CIS inter-parliamentary delegation led by Kyrgyz parliament chairman Medetkan Sherimkulov that arrived in Baku on Thursday.

Guliyev praised their peace mission seeking to "untie the Karabakh knot," adding that Azerbaijan's position remains unchanged—it stands for peaceful solution of all disputable questions that have piled up over the years of confrontation.

Shirimkulov said that the current visit to Baku is the continuation of the extensive mediatory work started in September 1993 by the CIS inter-parliamentary assembly. It has already organised a meeting between Azerbaijani and Armenian parliamentarians in Finland. Another such meeting, this time with the participation of representatives of the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, is expected to take place in Bishkek in early May.

"Our aim is to help the sides bridge the gap between their positions and find a way out of the crisis," Shirimkulov said. He added that the CIS countries are interested in restoring peace in the trans-Caucasus.

Early on Friday the delegation will meet with deputy parliament chairman Afiyaddin Dzhalilov and will be received by Azerbaijani President Heydar Aliyev at noon. After the talks the delegation will fly to Stepanakert, capital of Nagorno-Karabakh.

## ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 1 Apr

*LD0104052694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0506 GMT 1 Apr 94*

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow April 1 TASS—The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA carries an article entitled "Radical Democrats Have Created Their Own Party. Gaidar Hopes To Win

Support of President Yeltsin and Major Financial Groups", which says that "evidently, by holding a news conference devoted to the final stage of the creation of the "Russia's Choice" party Gaydar and his allies, Anatoliy Chubays, Anatoliy Pristavkin and Sergey Kovalev, intended not only to convince all those interested of bright prospects of this organisation, but show its present powerful organisational and intellectual potential. This has been demonstrated by a statement made by founders of the party and circulated at a news conference on Thursday, which was signed by over a hundred prominent public figures.

The newspaper carries an interview with chairman of the Georgian temporary committee for emergency situations, Jaba Ioseliani, who declared that "Abkhazian claims to create an independent state do not conform to existing realities. It is unnatural that 20,000 Abkhazians dictate their will to the predominantly Georgian population numbering around 500,000. This is not the right basis for building up a state, all the more so, because 5 million more Georgians are residing in the neighbouring state. This is absurd... The results of the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict which led to a bloody war suit no one today. Naturally, Georgia is not satisfied either... I repeat what I said many times before: Georgia's enemies cannot be Russia' patriots, they are its enemies ..., destroying what was created over centuries for the sake of present-day advantages. These people are "temporary", Ioseliani said.

The results of an election campaign in subjects of the Russian Federation are published on the front page of the ROSSIYSKIE VESTI Newspaper. The newspaper Says that "elections held in Russia's regions on March 27, showed several tendencies. An opinion was confirmed that public and political forces centered in Moscow did not show a profound interest in these elections. In fact, the struggle for regions between political parties has not begun yet," the newspaper said.

The TRUD daily carries an article by an academician of the Russian Academy of Education, Igor Bestuzhev-Lada, who says that "now and then, both branches of the executive power tell us that the situation is under control and whatever happens is for the better in the best of these worlds. However, we see for ourselves that the situation continues to deteriorate and there are no real signs of improvement or even stabilisation or deterrence of collapse in the foreseeable future. In my opinion, civic accord must begin not from a 'non-attack treaty' (since politicians who cease to attack each other are no longer politicians), but from real political programmes which could unite broad enough circles of the population and party forces, reflecting their interests," Bestuzhev-Lada said.

The VECHERNIY PETERSBURG newspaper writes that a coordinative council for fighting drug mafia and drug business was set up at the St. Petersburg mayor's office. The council was established because St. Petersburg is turning into one of European centers of drug business since its location is convenient for transit of drugs from Asia to Scandinavian countries and the Baltic states. The actual number of drug addicts in St. Petersburg varies from 80,000 to 250,000, interior officials said.

The newspaper ST. PETERBURGSKIYE VEDOMOSTI reports that a regional branch strike committee was established at a meeting of St. Petersburg and the Leningrad region trade union leaders to coordinate mass actions of the working people in defence of their rights. The first action taken by the committee, addressed to the Federal Assembly, the president and the government, is a demand to change the course of reforms in the interests of economic growth of the country and give a realistic figure of the minimum subsistence level of the population.

## Yeltsin Not To Be 'Hurried' Into Joining PFP

*LD3103220794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1843 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Boris Yeltsin is fully aware of the mood of society concerning the possibility of Russia joining NATO's Partnership for Peace [PFP] program, the president's press secretary Vyacheslav Kostikov said at a briefing in the Kremlin Thursday [31 March]. In any case, the president does not intend to be hurried and may need six or seven months to make a decision.

Kostikov said that special services, the Defense Ministry and the Foreign Ministry supported the joining of the Partnership for Peace program.

"The president also recognizes the arguments of the opponents of this step," Kostikov said. He cited numerous considerations which made Yeltsin listen to the views of both the supporters and opponents of joining the program.

The opponents of the program, said Kostikov, say it does not reflect the role played by Russia or its weight in today's world. It might result in Russia losing the room to maneuver in trouble spots.

What is more, the opponents tell the president that Russia does not stand to gain anything specific by joining the program.

The world community will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the landing of allied armies in Europe in World War II this year. Russia has not been invited to the opening ceremony. Such incidents, Kostikov said, compel Russian opponents of the Partnership to press for special conditions to be incorporated into the agreement.

## Kozyrev Confirms Russia To Join Partnership for Peace

*LD0104104194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1006 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 1 Apr—According to Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, Russia will sign the NATO "Partnership for Peace" program this month, as planned.

Answering journalists' questions at the airport while meeting UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali, Andrey Kozyrev indicated that there had been no changes in Russia's stance. Referring to the statements made yesterday by the president's press secretary to the effect that several months would be needed to resolve this issue, Kozyrev said he was probably talking about implementing the document rather than signing it.

## Kostikov Explains Process for Joining PFP

*LD3103132194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1315 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondents Tamara Zamyatina and Anna Melnikova]

[Text] Moscow 31 March, TASS—"For Russia to join the NATO Partnership for Peace initiative, a consensus of the entire society will be needed. Otherwise, damage will be done to civic accord. This process may take six to seven months," Russian Presidential Spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov said.

Speaking at a press briefing at the Kremlin on Thursday, Kostikov said, quoting President Boris Yeltsin's opinion, that the "Partnership for Peace formula does not quite correspond to the magnitude and the political and military might of Russia."

Joining the alliance will narrow down Russia's possibilities for manoeuvering in settling conflicts, Kostikov continued. Additionally, Russia's accession to the bloc could limit its rights in arms trade. Therefore, the president believes that certain conditions should be agreed before Russia joins the NATO Partnership for Peace programme in order to determine the pluses of such a move for Russia, the spokesman added.

Kostikov said the sincerity of the Partnership for Peace authors has been called into doubt by the NATO decision to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of the second front in the World War II without Russia's participation.

## Duma's Lukin on Terms for Joining PFP

*MK0104073094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Apr 94 p 1*

[INTERFAX report under the "Cooperation" rubric: "Russia and NATO Are Equal Partners. Vladimir Lukin on How One Should Join the 'Partnership for Peace' Program"]

[Text] Vladimir Lukin, chairman of the State Duma International Affairs Committee, at a press conference in the lower chamber of the Russian parliament yesterday suggested that a number of terms on Russia's joining the NATO "Partnership for Peace" [PFP] program should be included in the presentation document now being prepared.

The parliamentarian thinks that Russia can take part in the NATO decisionmaking mechanism only as an equal partner of the North Atlantic Treaty.

Lukin is also convinced that the process of formalizing the "Partnership for Peace" program should take into account Russia's obligations in connection with the creation of a collective security system of CIS countries. It should also be specified how peacekeeping operations

are going to be carried through, in what way processes are going to be coordinated, and what is the role of the Russian command.

On the questions of standardization of armaments under the "Partnership for Peace" program, Mr. Lukin thought that these problems should be solved "with both sides' interests being taken into consideration."

The parliamentarian suggests a phased system to finance the program because, according to him, Russia now would hardly be able to participate fully in its financing.

Mr. Lukin also underlined that Russia would have to persuade China that "we are not joining any military bloc against them." Besides, he pointed out, as a Eurasian country, Russia should "talk with China about the creation of a security system" which is to be bilateral or with the six countries taking part—China, Japan, Russia, two Korean states, and the United States.

## Lukin Questions Usefulness of NATO's Partnership

*LD3103234094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1549 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS—Russia's participation in NATO's Partnership for Peace programme "could be useful for Russia only under certain conditions", a senior Russian lawmaker said.

Addressing a news conference on Thursday, Vladimir Lukin, head of the State Duma (the parliament's lower house) Committee for Foreign Relations, dwelt upon some key issues concerning Russia's proposed joining the NATO initiative.

Russia agreed last month to enter the Partenership for Peace, a programme of joint exercises and military cooperation between the Atlantic Alliance and the post-communist countries.

Lukin deems it necessary to draw up a so-called "document of presentation" and send it to NATO before joining the initiative. The document is to specify mutual obligations of the Partnership's participants. It should also stipulate that Russia is ready to take part in the decision-making process only as NATO's equal partner.

Furthermore, the Partnership should have some relationship with the 52-member Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), Russia's favoured forum for European security.

"The CSCE has a mandate for maintaining cooperation and keeping peace but no mechanism. NATO has a mechanism to impose its decisions but has not international mandate", Lukin said.

According to him, the above "document of presentation" could be best drafted by joint efforts of all the parties concerned: the executive branch, the foreign and defence ministries, the Security Council and the State Duma, in order to "avoid any questions in future". This document should be also brought in line with the already existing programmes of CIS collective security and take into account Russia's commitments under these programmes.

The lawmaker assumed that the decision to join the Partnership for Peace programme would not require ratification by the lower house, but "this is still to be verified", he noted.

## Kokoshin, French Envoy Discuss World Security

*MK0104091094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 1 Apr 94 p 2*

[Dmitriy Volkov report under the "Contacts" rubric: "Russia Studies Alternatives to NATO expansion and Builds Direct Contacts With Europe"]

[Text] As has been advised by the staff of Russian Deputy Defense Minister Andrey Kokoshin, his meeting yesterday with French Ambassador to Russia Pierre Morel was devoted to international security matters. Mr. Kokoshin and Mr. Morel discussed the military-political cooperation of France and Russia under the agreements signed by both countries' defense ministers.

Commenting for SEGODNYA on the range of problems discussed, Andrey Kokoshin said that Russia advocates a strengthening of European security systems and views with great interest the "Balladur Plan" suggested by France, aimed at greater stability in Europe. This plan, according to experts, represents an autonomous program that does not rely on NATO structures and is based on bilateral agreements outside the U.S. sphere of control. Russia, incidentally, has stepped up its bilateral contacts with leading countries of Western Europe, especially with France and Germany, as well as with Great Britain and others.

Mr. Kokoshin, however, remarked that "alongside this" Russia also seeks to interact constructively with NATO, including participation in the "Partnership for Peace" program. Russia is trying to create a counterbalance of sorts to NATO's possible expansion through the accession of former Soviet satellites to it. The possibility of proposing to the European community a security system not based on a military bloc where the United States plays the leading role, but one based on bilateral accords, especially with France—a country that traditionally keeps aloof from NATO and is unwilling to follow in the wake of American foreign policy—appears very appealing.

According to SEGODNYA's lights, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev will put before Western European countries a Russian concept of European security late in April.

### Fleet Prevents NATO Ships From Entering Black Sea

*LD3103131294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1055 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] A well-informed source in the Black Sea Fleet headquarters reported to INTERFAX that in autumn of 1993 ships of the Black Sea Fleet headed for Georgia's western coasts only to stabilize the situation in the region of the port city of Poti. Their second goal, and the main one, was to prevent a large group of NATO ships from entering the Black Sea for permanent duty.

In his words, late October 1993 representatives of NATO Joint Naval command held a sitting which passed a decision to include the Black Sea into the zone of NATO's political interests. A 8-9-strong group of ships was supposed to be stationed for permanent duty in the Black Sea to exert control over this region. The source reported that the ships were to enter the Black Sea on November 14.

This is why the Black Sea command made a decision to gather an operative-tactical grouping which departed to the Caucasus' coasts.

"If we had not done this they would have entered the Black Sea," emphasized the source in the Black Sea Fleet headquarters.

He also underlined that on the whole, the activity of NATO ships in the Black Sea is increasing. As an example, he mentioned the fact that last year 15 NATO ships which were conducting joint naval maneuvers together with Bulgarians and Romanians in close vicinity to Russia's and Ukraine's southern boundaries visited the Black Sea.

### Yeltsin Expresses 'Cautious Interest' in Euro-Asian Union

*LD3103152194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1456 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Tamara Zamyatina and Anna Melnikova]

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS—Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev's initiative about the creation of an Euroasian union, which he put forward during his visit to Moscow, was met with "cautious interest" by Russian President Boris Yeltsin, his press secretary Vyacheslav Kostikov told a briefing in the Kremlin today.

Kostikov called the initiative "unexpected," although he admitted Nazarbayev could not have made his idea public at a meeting with Moscow State University students without having discussed it with the Russian president beforehand.

Kostikov expressed his opinion that "Nazarbayev's idea has a geopolitical logic, but that logic is already contained in the CIS formula, so it is hardly necessary to replace one good idea with another, but there would be some sense in their mutual evolution."

The presidential press secretary said that Yeltsin has taken a time-out to examine the arguments pro and contra Nursultan Nazarbayev's initiative.

### Security Council's Lobov Ends Meetings With U.S. Officials

*LD0104064194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0632 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Borisenko]

[Text] Washington April 1 TASS—Secretary of the Russian Security Council, Oleg Lobov, ended a series of meetings with high-ranking officials of the U.S. Administration.

On Thursday [1 April], Lobov met with the presidential aide for economic issues, Bowmen Catter, and political adviser of the U.S. President for health care, Richard Cronik.

Earlier, Lobov thoroughly familiarized himself with the structure and functions of the U.S. national security council. In particular, Lobov extended an invitation to the presidential aide for national security, Anthony Lake, to pay a visit to Moscow. The invitation was accepted with gratitude.

During Lobov's talks with top-ranking officials of the U.S. Administration, the sides discussed, in particular, the U.S. stance on the development of relations with Russia. The sides pointed out the importance of deepening interaction and partnership between the two countries. Considerable attention was paid to economic problems which were thoroughly discussed at a meeting between the Russian delegation and representatives of U.S. business circles.

After the talks in Washington were completed, the Russian delegation went to Honolulu at the invitation of the governor of the state of Hawaii. During a series of meetings with local businessmen the sides are expected to discuss possibilities for establishing mutually advantageous ties between American companies and Russian organisations in the Far East and problems of stepping up cooperation in the Asian-Pacific region. This subject is expected to be brought up at a meeting with members of the council for international affairs in Honolulu.

### U.S. Commerce Secretary Urges Abolishing Barriers

*PM3103123194 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 3*

[Yuriy Popov report under the "Visits" rubric: "Is the Russian Market Economy Necessary for U.S. Security?"]

[Text] The U.S. business delegation which arrived in Moscow on Monday is surely the most high-powered ever to come here. It is headed by Commerce Secretary Ronald Brown and consists of leading figures from the largest U.S. corporations and concerns, the export-import bank, and other associations and institutions. The purpose of the trip is to carry out an on-the-spot study of Russia's economic position and determine potential for the further development of economic ties between the two countries.

The U.S. visitors confirmed this intention during a round table meeting of representatives of Russia and the United States held at the Slavyanskaya hotel yesterday. The significance that the Russian side attaches to the visit is shown by its representatives at the meeting: Aleksandr Shokhin, Oleg Soskovets, Oleg Davydov, Yuriy Shafranik, Sergey Dubinin, and Yuriy Petrov.

President Clinton, who announced the mission in Moscow back in January, bade the delegation farewell by saying that the Russian market economy is vitally necessary to the economic security of the United States and the whole world. In his opening address at the meeting, R. Brown stressed that the U.S. side intends to overcome all the barriers standing in the way of the development of Russo-U.S. trade and private enterprise. U.S. entrepreneurs, he said, prepared for this mission with great enthusiasm and were extremely keen to visit Russia. They represent the broadest U.S. business circles—a fact which suggests that we have great potential for expanding mutual relations in commerce and trade, investments, and so forth. At the same time he expressed the hope that the Russian state will take appropriate steps to ensure a basis conducive to the entry of foreign investments.

Perhaps this is the ultimate task of the visit by such a high-powered delegation. That was the main theme in the U.S. representatives' comments during the discussion of the items on the agenda which has now begun: the economic reform, trade, and foreign investments.

## Brown 'Cautiously Optimistic' on Expanding Ties

*LD0104112194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0921 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Lev Florov]

[Text] St. Petersburg April 1 TASS—Representatives of the U.S. business circles, accredited in St. Petersburg, have assessed the statement made here at a business luncheon by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Ronald Brown as cautiously optimistic about the possibility of expanding bilateral economic relations. Brown described as not very encouraging the dynamics of the development of the Russian market economy.

Nevertheless, he believes there are prerequisites for stepping up bilateral cooperation in many areas, primarily in space exploration, extraction and processing of oil and gas, production of medicines, and development of communication facilities.

Brown said that real chances to "advance to the Urals" had appeared after his trip to Yekaterinburg. Offices of American companies could be opened there.

The agenda of the stay in St. Petersburg of the American delegation, which includes the heads of 28 key U.S. corporations, is of an obviously business character. Brown had a private meeting with St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak today morning.

## U.S., Russian Troops Plan Joint Exercises

*LD0104103994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0906 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[Text] Moscow April 1 ITAR-TASS—"Russian troops will arrive in Kansas, U.S. in November to take part in joint exercises," said Colonel General Eduard Vorobyev, deputy chief commander of the Russian land forces.

The exercises are designed to upgrade coordination in peacekeeping operations.

The Russians will participate in the fall exercises after their American counterparts take part in the exercises code-named Peacekeeper-94, which will take place in Totsk, the Volga military district of Russia, from July 6 through 14.

Asked about the advisability of such exercises, Colonel-General Vorobyev said new peace-keeping methods, based on the experience of the best peace-keeping missions of American and Russian Armed Forces. [as received]

Vorobyev denied the allegations concerning "the preparations for the occupation of Russia by American troops". He said one American company of the First Battalion of the Third Infantry Division, not more than 250 American men and officers all in all.

## UN Secretary General Arrives on 5-Day Visit

*LD0104095894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0936 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Denis Perkin]

[Text] Moscow April 1 ITAR-TASS—The United Nations secretary-general, Butrus Butrus-Ghali has arrived for an official visit to Moscow on Monday. He told Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, who welcomed him to the Russian capital at Sheremetevo airport, he was glad to be in Moscow again.

The five-day visit agenda includes meetings and talks with President Boris Yeltsin, the foreign and defence ministers, and chairmen of the State Duma and Federation Council committees.

Butrus Butrus-Ghali is also due to meet the Russian Orthodox Church head, Patriarch Aleksey of Moscow and all Russia.

### Participation in Cocom Successor Sought

*LD3103170894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1341 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Ivantsov]

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS— Russia would like to take part in the organisation which will succeed the Coordinating Committee on Export Controls (Cocom), which ceases its existence as of April first according to a decision taken by Cocom's representatives during a meeting held in a suburb of the Hague.

Cocom's "death" symbolizes the disappearance of one more relic from the "Cold War". Cocom was formed in 1949 by the N[illegible] countries with Australia and Japan to establish str[illegible]trols over the export of strategically important technologies and raw materials to the socialist bloc countries.

As far as Cocom's "successor" is concerned, it will not be a structure similar to its predecessor, but basically a new organization which should implement an international programme to monitor the movement of arms and dual-use technologies, ITAR-TASS learned from reliable sources.

The new organization should forestall the purchase of such goods for military purposes, but will hopefully not be aimed against one state of group of states.

Work on an agreement concerning the new organization is due to begin in the near future. China, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia have announced their interest in being part of the Cocom-successor organization. So far, a decision has been made to found three working groups which will outline the main purposes of the future international institution.

Consultations on the approaches of various countries to the problem of export control will be continued. Russia has already taken part in such negotiations and is ready to continue to play an active role in them on a partner-like basis.

The most important question remains that of working out an effective international control mechanism which will replace the old principles and help maintain the necessary high level of knowledge about the spread of strategic technologies and materials.

### Russian Border Patrol Fired On at Estonian Border

*LD0104111394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1057 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS string correspondent Sergey Luchnikov]

[Text] Pskov (Pechora stretch of the Russo-Estonian border) April 1 TASS— A Russian border patrol was fired upon in Pechora district of Pskov region, on the border with Estonia.

According to preliminary information, received from competent sources, two violators, who crossed the border from the Estonian side, were stopped by a Russian border patrol at 3 a.m. on April 1st 50 kilometres from the Russia town of Pskov. They were approximately 25 and 40 years old. The older man said his name was Vladimir Ilyich and that he was an Afghan war veteran, while the younger man said he was a pilot of Pskov airport.

One of them pulled out a "TT" pistol and started shooting at the patrol when the borderguards reported on the incident to their superiors and asked for a car to bring the violators to the border post. The patrol commander was killed by a bullet in the heart and two of his subordinates were wounded. Both violators fled to Estonia. They are now being sought by Russian and Estonian special services.

### Britian's Expulsion of Russian Diplomat Viewed

*LD0104111194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0943 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Pakhomov]

[Text] London, 1 Apr—Great Britain announced today that it is expelling a Russian diplomat. The diplomat has not been named. A Foreign Office spokesman said this is in retaliation for the expulsion from Moscow of a staff member of the British Embassy in the Russian Federation [RF] accused of receiving intelligence information from Russian citizens. "The Russians asked us to recall a diplomat," a Foreign Office spokesman said. "We regret that demand, which is at odds with the bilateral relationship we are trying to build. In retaliation, we asked the Russians to recall one of their diplomats from London. Neither diplomat has been declared persona non grata. We hope this matter is now at an end."

A Russian Federation embassy spokesman in London said he has "no comment" on this question.

### Foreign Espionage in Russia Viewed

*LD0104110494 Moscow NTV in Russian 1800 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[From the "Special Report" program; passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] Once upon a time this office was the heart of the Lubyanka. It was here that Yuriy Andropov, the chairman of state security worked. After him, no one else occupied this office, and practically nothing in it has changed to this day.

But plenty has changed in the structure of the Russian security services. Names, leaders, and to a certain extent the personnel have changed. Russian counterintelligence, as the professionals themselves admit, is not having a very good time at the moment. Open borders and imperfect legislation do not help to catch spies—and this at a time when Russia remains, as she always was, a huge source of new technology—a fact well understood not only by Western secret services but also by ordinary commercial companies.

[Aleksandr Mikhailov, head of the Federal Counterintelligence Service, FSK] "There are foreign secret services on Russian territory, and they do periodically forget their sense of moderation and the fact that they are guests here, and begin to act fairly openly in their own interests."

[Correspondent] At the most approximate estimate, there are about 120,000 foreigners illegally present in Moscow and Moscow Oblast at the moment. Of course, not all of them are spies. In any case, the greatest damage is caused not by foreign spies but by our own ones. We no longer have the concept of a specialist who is not allowed to leave the country, practically everyone is allowed to go abroad. But practically everyone here earns God knows how little, so the market for potential spies here is bigger than ever.

Vadim Sintsov, alias British intelligence agent Demetrius, only worked as a spy for about a year, and was uncovered recently and is now testifying from Lefortovo.

[Sintsov] "A certain Mr. James Self started working with me. After a while he introduced me to his receiving side, that is, a communications officer. They met me in other countries, that is, not in Russia. But in about the fall, they started to develop an option for communicating here."

[Correspondent] Sintsov does not know why, of all the specialists with access to the information that interested the British, they chose him. It might be simply that the British secret services got hold of documents that compromised Sintsov, and were sure that he would work with them. Sintsov got about $12,000 from the British over a year—not much by Western standards. In comparison with the prices for services of this kind a few years ago, our spies are getting paid a lot less now. But there are still plenty of people wanting to share state secrets with foreign powers. Just last year about 20 agents were uncovered in Russia.

[Mikhailov] "In the West, according to our information, a fairly respectable database on our leading-edge technologies and our armaments and new inventions has already been formed."

[Sintsov] "They were mainly interested in two things, two areas where I could offer information due to my official activity. The first was Russian arms deliveries to Middle East countries, and the second was general issues of the organization of arms deliveries here."

[Correspondent] It is interesting, however, that science and technology may develop, the main methods used by agents from various countries have not changed over many years and centuries.

[Mikhailov] "The main weapon, as before, is the agents."

[Correspondent] Just as before, they use compromising material to recruit, hiding places that look like canned food, special writing, and even a password when two agents meet. As the specialists themselves say, there are intelligence services from friendly countries, but there are no friendly intelligence services. Incidentally, just yesterday the FSK detained three DPRK embassy employees in an attempt to obtain examples of new armaments, as well as a diplomat from Africa for other espionage activity.

## Government To Reduce Gas Supplies to Belarus 1 Apr

*LD3103230094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1528 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By BUSINESS-TASS]

[Text] Moscow, March 31 (TASS)—Russia's Gazprom gas giant is forced to gradually reduce gas supplies to Belarus from April 1, an official of Gazprom's central controlling directorate told BUSINESS-TASS.

Earlier, Russia cut its gas deliveries to Belarus because of huge outstanding debts of the republic's consumers to the Russian state-run gas company. But as a result of Russian-Belarusian negotiations, gas supplies to the former Soviet republic were resumed in the full volume, some 54 million cubic metres a day, from March 15. Since then, Belarusia's debt to Gazprom has increased by another 100 billion roubles and reached 500 billion roubles. Attempts by the Belarusian Government to recover debts from the republican gas consumers and to repay them to Russian suppliers have been in vain so far.

However, the Gazprom official said, in contrast to Ukraine, Belarusia has not resorted to syphoning gas intended for Western consumers from the pipelines crossing the republic's territory. Therefore, gas consumers in Brest, Lithuania, the Kaliningrad region and Poland are likely to continue receiving Russian gas in the full volume.

Ukraine has not yet managed to repay its gas debts to Russia either. As a result of the latest Russian-Ukrainian negotiations, gas deliveries to Ukraine were resumed in the full volume for a month's period, until April 10.

### Plans To Reduce Gas Supplies Denied

*LD0104010994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0025 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Ivantsov]

[Text] Moscow, 1 Apr—The Russian gas company Gazprom has no plans to reduce gas supplies to Belarus either today or in the next few days, Aleksandr Baltalin, the chief controller of the central control administration of the Gazprom joint-stock society, told ITAR-TASS. He said that contrary to reports claiming that natural gas supplies to Belarus will be reduce beginning 1 April, "our supplies of gas will continue at the present level."

### Yeltsin Representative on Moldovan-Dniester Talks

*LD3103224194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1822 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Boris Krivoshey]

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS—A new strong impulse has to be given to attempts at political settlement in the Dniester region, Vladilen Vasev, plenipotentiary representative of the Russian president told ITAR-TASS in an exclusive interview.

He returned the other day from a two-week-long tour of the republic of Moldova and Dniester region.

Vasev met with Moldovan President Mircea Snegur, Parliament Speaker Petru Luchinski, Dniester leader Igor Smirnov and other officials.

Russia is concerned about the lack of progress at the direct talks between Moldova and Dniester, which have been going on for about 18 months, he said.

On the other hand, Moscow praises Moldova and the Dniester region for their readiness to come to a compromise at settling the crisis and the fact that they have called on Russia to mediate at the talks.

Vasev told the Moldovan president and the Dniester leader about Russia's concept of a special status for the Dniester region, which could form a basis for holding talks and working out mutually acceptable decisions.

That was the major aim of my tour. The Russian party aims at helping to set the dialogue going, since the past talks, in which "amorphous parliamentary-and-governmental expert groups participated, were ineffective," he emphasized.

The Moldovan and Dniester presidents now seem likely to confer wide powers to their respective delegations at the forthcoming talks, with Russia acting as an intermediary.

"Both parties pay due attention to the issue and look for a format for a new stage in negotiations," the high-ranking Russian diplomat said.

"The Republic of Moldova and the Dniester region would like to give a strong impetus to the new stage in the talks," he said.

Vasev surmised that the two parties will agree upon the conditions for providing the impetus at an early date.

### Mediator on Progress in Georgian-Abkhazian Talks

*MK0104103094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Apr 94 p 3*

[Igor Rotar report under the "Talks" rubric: "Main Problem is Refugees. Another Stage of Georgian-Abkhazian Settlement"]

[Excerpts] Consultations between the delegations of Abkhazia and Georgia on a settlement of their conflict were held in Moscow yesterday with Russia's mediation. The new Georgian-Abkhazian meeting was prompted by a recent appeal by the Russian Government expressing concern over the resumption of hostilities and calling on the warring sides to sit at the negotiating table once again.

It was decided not to discuss Abkhazia's future status (the sides should only agree on a cease-fire) during these consultations, which were intended to focus on the return of refugees.

Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Pastukhov, personal representative of the Russian president, told NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA on the eve of the talks: "I cannot say that we have achieved a significant breakthrough, but now the achievement of a compromise has finally become a reality. We have conducted intensive work with the Abkhazian delegation and now the final result depends on the Georgian side."

In Pastukhov's view, the Russian side has managed to convince the Abkhazians to soften considerably their criteria for the definition of "refugees to be banned from entry." Initially, the Abkhazians insisted on including in this category "all those who participate in the hostilities on the Georgian side." Now they have agreed that the following categories will be denied the right of return: those responsible for military crimes; regular criminals; and those taking part in military operations or currently undergoing training at special military camps in western Georgia.

According to Boris Pastukhov, the Abkhazian side was very reluctant to agree with the definition of the third category. The personal representative of the Russian president said that, according to UN military observers' estimates, there are three military camps in western Georgia, each of them providing training for around 1,000 refugees from Abkhazia. Pastukhov is certain that

the Georgian side has to accept the current definition of the "refugees banned from returning." "What is more important, after all: The problem of 3,000 intransigent young people, or the fate of around 300,000 refugees (the figure given by the Georgians themselves). If the Georgians really want peace, they are obliged to agree to the plan." [passage omitted]

During yesterday's talks, however, the sides never came to a definite solution. Despite that, the Russian president's personal representative is not losing his optimism: "We have achieved considerable success and are steadily moving ahead toward our goal. Final conclusions should be drawn after the end of the talks, the new round of which is scheduled for 4 April."

### Border Guard Troops To Stay in Tajikistan

*LD3103203194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1640 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Russian border guard troops will stay in Tajikistan for a long time, the commander of border guard troops, Colonel-General Andrey Nikolayev told a news conference in Dushanbe Thursday [31 March].

He said that maximum attention will be given to providing housing and service facilities for them and that the presence in Tajikistan of Russian border guard troops is a recognition of Russia's strategic interests in the republic, and the interests of Russia and Tajikistan, like all CIS countries, lie in the security of the Tajik-Afghan border.

Nikolayev said that there is no military way for solving the problems of Tajikistan. However, the border guard troops on the territory of Tajikistan pursue Russia's foreign policy aims. He spoke highly of the results of the military council in Dushanbe on March 31. He said they had taken decisions to fulfil the tasks of the border guard troops and help their interaction with the collective peace-keeping forces and the Tajik Defense Ministry. He said that all the problems on the agenda were solved.

Nikolayev said that all citizens of Tajikistan would study at Russian military colleges and serve within Russian border guard troops deployed in Tajikistan.

The general said that additional Russian-Kyrgyz checkpoints will be set up to protect the borders of the Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous region. A Kyrgyz battalion has arrived in Badakhshan, said Nikolayev.

### Chernomyrdin Meets Hungarian President

*LD3103231194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1502 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sergey Zhirnikhin and Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Budapest, 31 March—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, who is here on an official visit, had a meeting this afternoon with Hungarian President Arpad Goncz.

The ITAR-TASS correspondent was informed by sources within the Russian Governmental delegation that V. Chernomyrdin had stated the intention of Russia to firmly adhere to the course of developing friendly ties and cooperation, which accords with the interests of the two countries' peoples.

The head of the Russian Cabinet informed the Hungarian president of the main directions of the Russian Government's policies, especially in the economic sphere. It was noted that a deepening of practical cooperation and the finding of mutually acceptable solutions to questions that arise should provide a firm and stable basis for the further progress of Russian-Hungarian trade and economic links.

V. Chernomyrdin said also that Russia highly appreciates the level that has been achieved in bilateral relations, which are no longer burdened by any fundamental problems and are characterized by a fruitful political dialogue and constructive interaction between the Russian Federation and Hungary in a spirit of genuine equality and partnership.

Today Russia occupies second place among Hungary's major economic partners. In its turn, Budapest is in sixth or seventh place among Moscow's main foreign trade partners, Arpad Goncz said. In the view of the Hungarian head of state, there is every chance that the economic interaction between the two countries can be made even more intensive. The legal and juridical base for this has already been created.

In spite of the fact that "Western orientation" is considered a priority in the development of the Hungarian national economy, Budapest cannot allow itself not to expand its Eastern European links, above all with Russia. It is necessary to work out a joint document on the mutual protection of investments and to push forward cooperation in the financial sphere and in interaction between banks, Arpad Goncz stressed.

After meeting the Hungarian president, Viktor Chernomyrdin laid wreaths at the monument to Soviet soldiers in Budapest's Freedom Square and at the monument in Heroes Square.

### Yeltsin Receives Polish Sejm Speaker

*LD0104111294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1048 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS]

[Text] Moscow April 1 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin received Jozef Oleksy, marshal of the Polish

Sejm, in the Kremlin on Friday [1 April]. Oleksy heads a Polish parliamentary delegation which came to Moscow for an official visit.

During the conversation Yeltsin expressed satisfaction with the development of parliamentary ties between Russia and Poland and declared for the further development of Russo-Polish relations on a basis of law, says a report of the Russian president's press office.

Oleksy noted the importance of interparliamentary contacts between the two countries and stressed that various sections of the Polish society wish to strengthen and develop ties with Russia.

### Kozyrev on 'Paradoxical Friendship' With Poland

*LD3103183594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1640 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Russia's Foreign Minister hopes that direct contacts between the Federal Assembly and Poland's Seim (parliament) will help to get rid of "some faults" in bilateral relations. Andrey Kozyrev expressed this view after a meeting with the Polish Seim Marshal (speaker of the lower house of parliament IF [INTERFAX]) Jozef Oleksy.

As Kozyrev said, "a paradoxical friendship is evolving between Russia and Poland. The paradox lies in the fact that we have good relations resting on a sound legal basis, good contacts at the level of presidents, prime ministers, and foreign ministers, but then there are some odd press statements, especially in the Polish press. We also have extremists, who make irresponsible statements from time to time, but they never make them officially," Kozyrev remarked.

In his opinion, Moscow and Warsaw "need to strengthen the legal base of their common interests and remove all faults in bilateral ties."

### Kozyrev Meets Oleksy, Criticizes Polish Press

*LD3103153294 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1333 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vladimir Taranov]

[Text] Moscow, 31 Mar—Questions of bilateral cooperation and solving difficult problems were the subject of discussion at a meeting today between Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and Poland's Sejm Speaker Jozef Oleksy.

Lately, there has been a big upsurge in Russian-Polish top-level contacts, Kozyrev said after the meeting. However, the Polish press at times carries irresponsible unofficial statements that clearly do not help to strengthen bilateral relations. The minister expressed the hope that the talks in Moscow between the members of the Polish parliamentary delegation and Russian parliamentarians and representatives of executive power would lead to the elimination of certain distortions.

### Diplomat Says No Threat Posed To Poland

*LD3103200994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1436 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: By correspondents Dmitriy Voskoboynikov, Igor Porshnev, Vitaliy Trubetskoy, and others]

[Text] Russia does not pose any potential threat to Poland. On the contrary, it would like "to give a hand of friendship and cooperation to Warsaw," a high ranking Russian diplomat in charge for relations with Poland declared in his interview with Interfax.

He expressed regret due to the fact that over the last period of time the Polish press "depicts modern Russia and its future in rather dark shades." "This places its own imprint on the perception of our country on the part of rank-and-file Poles and of many political functionaries. There is practically no reliable information from Russian in Poland," said the diplomat.

In his words, there "are several actual but not imaginary problems in the Russian-Polish relations." We must bring order into the system of mutual accounts between two countries, to solve the problem of debts, and to coordinate everything what concerns the joint project providing for the construction of Russian gas pipelines on Poland's territory. This would help to increase Russian natural gas shipments both to Poland and to the Western European countries," said the diplomat.

In his opinion, "the visit of a parliamentary delegation headed by Marshall (the lower chamber speaker—Interfax) of the Polish Seimas Yosef Oleksa to Moscow will greatly promote to "the warming of Russian-Polish relations."

On Wednesday Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin received the Polish parliamentarians at their request. On Thursday they are to hold "intensive contacts" in the State Duma's committees and commissions. They are supposed to meet with the speakers of the Federal Assembly's chambers, Ivan Rybkin and Vladimir Shumeyko.

It is not ruled out that on Friday Russian President Boris Yeltsin will receive the Polish delegation.

### Churkin Believe Zagreb Agreement Will Hold

*LD3103183194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1640 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Russia believes that the agreement between representatives of Croatia and Krajina's Serbs concluded in the Russian Embassy in Zagreb on Wednesday [30 March] will be observed. The party which violates it

"will challenge the key members of the world community. It would be extremely unreasonable," the special envoy of the Russian President Vitaliy Churkin, Russia's deputy Foreign Minister, declared at a press conference on Thursday in Moscow.

He also reported that the UN General Secretary Butrus Ghali had already addressed the Security Council with a request to allocate additional forces to be deployed in the disengagement zone.

Responding to an Interfax correspondent, Churkin indicated that in Croatia there are 800 Russian servicemen in the composition of the UN peacekeeping forces. As many as 200 Russians will go there in the second half of April.

Speaking about the political status of the self-proclaimed republic of Serbian Krajina, Churkin pointed out that "the solution of this problem should come with time. Those Croatian Serbs who adhere to unreconcilable positions on this issue are actually taking up an anti-Serbian position."

In Churkin's words, "the event which occurred in Zagreb is of great importance because it is a political-diplomatic model within which one must work during the next few weeks and months to setile the situation not only in Croatia but in Bosnia as well. The meeting with the participation of the Bosnian Serbs, Croats, and Moslems may take place within the next few weeks if not the next few days."

Churkin believes that the Bosnian Croats and Moslems who have concluded an agreement on the creation of the federation must coordinate and develop a joint position for the negotiations with the Bosnian Serbs.

As Churkin said, an active involvement of the representatives of the United States, European Union, and United Nations is not just "a tribute to politeness." "Russia was and will be in favor of the expansion of international interaction during the settlement in the former Yugoslavia. We must act in agreement with the United States, European Union, and United Nations."

## Churkin on Future Moves in Duma Bosnia Debate

*PM0104105194 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Apr 94 p 1*

["Exclusive" interview with Vitaliy Churkin, Russian special representative in former Yugoslavia, by RIA NOVOSTI correspondent Sergey Gryzunov "especially for ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA;" date and place not given: "Serbs and Croats Reconciled"]

[Text] The joint efforts of Russian and U.S. diplomacy produced the desired result 30 March. The Croats and the Serbs who are densely concentrated in the Krajina enclave on the territory of the Republic of Croatia, concluded a cease-fire agreement. Russia played a crucial role in achieving this agreement. Vitaliy Churkin, its special representative in the talks on the former Yugoslavia, gave an exclusive interview for ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA.

[Gryzunov] What further action will you take to resolve the Yugoslav crisis?

[Churkin] First, our joint actions with the Americans are a precedent which will have far-reaching importance. It is experience which we can use to resolve other conflicts.

As regards the former Yugoslavia, two main areas of work have now been mapped out for us. They are further steps to normalize Serb-Croat relations, specifically in areas protected by UN units. Possibly in two weeks' time we will be able to organize a new round of talks at the Russian Embassy in Zagreb between the Croats and the Serbs from Krajina on economic questions, and then we will move on to the most difficult part of the talks—Krajina's political status.

We intend to take advantage of the accelerating pace of peacemaking efforts in order to complete the settlement of the Bosnian conflict. We and our U.S. partners have a clear idea of what to do next.

[Gryzunov] It is known that some Duma deputies are prepared to obstruct the Foreign Ministry in connection with your approach to NATO's "Partnership for Peace" program. How will you react?

[Churkin] From my viewpoint our participation in the program is something that speaks for itself. The reaction of a section of the Duma did, however, come as quite a surprise to me. In this context we have already started to explain our positions and approaches.

Our reaction is that we will defend our viewpoint. We have to dot all the i's and cross all the t's.

Therefore, as for myself, when I get back to Moscow I intend to participate most vigorously in the upcoming debate on this question prior to 21 April, when it is planned that Russia should officially join the "Partnership for Peace" program.

## 300 Additional Troops Destined for Bosnia

*LD0104092894 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0700 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[Text] The UN Security Council has decided to extend the mandate of the UN Protection Forces [UNPROFOR] in former Yugoslavia for another six months and strengthen the force with 3,500 servicemen. Speaking at the session, Vasiliy Sidorov, the deputy of the permanent representative of Russia at the United Nations, pointed out that Russia has decided to send 300 servicemen to the force, and that 100 of them have already arrived in Sarajevo to reinforce the Russian contingent deployed there. Sidorov noted that Russia is also prepared to send civil observers to ensure the operation of Tuzla Airport.

### Increasing Foreign Involvement in Ex-Yugoslavia Eyed

*PM3103141194 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 3*

[Yevgeniy Fadeyev report under "World Hot Spots—Yugoslavia" rubric: "First Turks, then Germans..."]

[Text] Belgrade—In the "Yugoslavia" hotel, where the headquarters of the UN peacekeeping forces is billeted, I met a major from a West European country, whom I had met on a number of trips, and heard something unexpected:

"Naturally, this is not my business, but you have 'set yourselves up' again; by agreeing to send 400 Russian 'blue helmets' to Bosnia, you have given the Muslims a gift which they have long been dreaming about. The Turks will immediately arrive in Sarajevo in response...."

The very next day, Muslim leader A. Izetbegovic protested to all and sundry against the arrival of the Russian "blue helmets," who, in his opinion, cannot be neutral, since they are the Serbs' allies. And then he asked the question: "If Russia has arrived in Sarajevo, why can Turkey not do the same thing?"

And so, in violation of the unwritten UN principle not to send military subunits from neighboring countries or former occupaniers to Bosnia, its secretary general has given the Turks permission for this. First it was a question of 200 servicemen. Then it was reported: Ankara is sending 2,700 men.

The reaction of Belgrade and the Balkan countries was not long coming. Here are just a few headlines: "Janissaries Again," "Turkey—Threat to Peace," "Return of the Ottoman Empire."

The Turkish foreign minister commented as follows on the UN decision to allow Turkish troops to be part of the "blue helmets": "This is a triumph for Turkish policy."

The Bosnian Serbs, Belgrade, Athens, and Sofia do not think so. Their opinion is unanimous: Turkey was an occupier for many years, and it is not at all appropriate for it to be involved in peacekeeping actions in Bosnia since it is a prejudiced force.

By and large it is impossible to get rid of the idea that on every occasion, as if deliberately, the West and the United States think up "solutions" with one aim alone—to add fuel to the smoldering fire.

And what about Moscow? The Greek newspaper TA NEA, which is close to government circles, writes that only Russia could hinder the dispatch of Turkish troops. However, its UN representative, Vorontsov, has stated that the Russian Government is in agreement with the Turkish proposal....

Naive Athens observers: Moscow has already congratulated Athens on its peacekeeping contribution, and, for the purposes of balance, is sending another 300 servicemen to Bosnia who include representatives of Muslim nationalities.

Speaking at a parliamentary sitting, the leader of the Bosnian Muslims, touching on the UN decision to involve Turkey in its operations, stated in particular: "The conditions for a major war are thus being created." If the Turks arrive, he said, then the armed forces of Yugoslavia, as a member of the United Nations, will enter the Serb Republic.

The UN Security Council has adopted the following decision: The city of Mostar, which the Croats and the Muslims can in no way divide up between themselves, will be under the control of the European Union in the next two years. To accomplish this its leaders have instructed...Germany. And one of the fathers of the city of Bremen has been appointed Governor of Mostar. He will bring with him his own administrative officials and police.

### Foreign Ministry Welcomes Israel-PLO Accords

*LD0104115994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1126 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Denis Perkin]

[Text] Moscow April 1 ITAR-TASS—The Russian Foreign Ministry welcomes the accords signed as a result of talks between the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, according to the statement received by ITAR-TASS today.

The negotiations, which centered around security in Hebron, ended with the decision to send international observers to this city.

"Russia as a co-sponsor of the peace process is firmly convinced that these accords must be followed by new steps, and first of all by the signing of an agreement on Gaza and Jericho and its implementation in accordance with the schedule indicated in the declaration of principles. This would enable not only an easing of tension on occupied territories but also open up a path towards the advancement of the entire negotiating process aimed at establishing a fair and durable peace in the Middle East," the Russian Foreign Ministry said.

The Russian ministry expressed the hope that the accords reached in the course of the negotiations would be fulfilled to provide reliable protection to the Palestinian population and normalise the situation on the occupied territories.

### Foreign Minister Concerned at West Bank, Gaza Violence

*LD3103140094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1303 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[BY ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Boris Krivoshey and Aleksandr Krylovich]

[Text] Moscow, 31 Mar—The Russian Foreign Ministry [MID] has expressed serious concern in connection with the continuing incidents of violence on the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza Strip, as a result of which there has been an increasing loss of life. Grigoriy Karasin, director of the Foreign Ministry's Information and Press Department, noted at a briefing today that these incidents could "deal a blow not only to the prospects for achieving accords between the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and the Israeli Government, but also to the whole Near East peace process."

In these conditions, the MID spokesman stressed, "the Russian co- sponsor for a settlement considers it his duty to once again urge both sides—the Israelis and the Palestinians—to show maximum restraint and calm in order to prevent the fate of the peace efforts being handed to [ne otdavat na otkup] irresponsible extremist elements."

The main thing now, the Russian foreign political department believes, "is to do everything to ensure the speediest conclusion of an agreement by Israel and the PLO on Gaza and Jericho and its practical implementation." "This would signify the first real step on the way toward implementing the Palestine-Israel declaration on principles, and would give a strong boost to the successful advancement of the peace process in the Near East," Grigory Karasin stated.

### Iraqi Reparations to Russian Concerns Total $2 Billion

*PM3103110394 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 3*

[Elmar Guseynov report: "Iraq Will Have To Pay Russia $2 Billion"]

[Excerpts] The UN Reparations Commission has fixed at $40 billion the size of the damages Iraq must pay those who were affected during its invasion of Kuwait. The amount going to affected Russian companies is $2 billion. [passage omitted]

As IZVESTIYA was informed at the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs International Organizations Department, our diplomats have already passed on to the UN Reparations Commission almost 99 percent of all claims on the Russian side. On the whole, those who sustained losses were former Soviet foreign trade organizations which lost orders in Kuwait as a result of the Iraqi invasion. A Foreign Ministry staffer placed special emphasis on the fact that the claims issue has nothing at all to do with the problem of Iraqi debts to Russia, which will be resolved separately and on a bilateral basis.

### Latest Death Reveals Risks to Russians in Algeria

*PM3103132794 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 3*

[Ravil Mustafin report: "Algeria: The Terror Goes On"]

[Text] This week another name has been added to the tragic list of Russian citizens who have died in Algeria. On Monday Konstantin Kukushkin, the 41-year old driver of our ambassador, was killed in a suburb of the Algerian capital. His wife Nadezhda and seven-year old daughter Irina had remained in Russia.

The dead man was the fifth Russian citizen to have died in Algeria at the hands of Muslim fundamentalists in the past six months. The solemn tally was opened on 16 October last year, when Lieutenant Colonel Vladimir Valezhnyy and Lieutenant Colonel Aleksandr Orlov, instructors at an air defense school in Laghouat (400 km from the Algerian capital), were killed. Lieutenant Colonel Aleksandr Loshchilin was wounded on that occasion. In December the fundamentalists gunned down a Russian citizen who was permanently resident in Algeria. On 12 February this year V. Ovcharenko, a specialist working at a thermal electric power station, was killed. Now K. Kukushkin has died.

Your ITAR-TASS correspondent has sent the details of this tragedy. Kukushkin went to the Algiers suburb to buy essential spares for the embassy's Lada cars. Having made the purchases he returned to his Toyota minibus which was in a parking bay. He got into the driver's seat and turned the ignition key. At that moment two gunmen suddenly appeared (some witnesses say there were three of them) and opened fire from revolvers aiming at Kukushkin's head. Two of the shots proved fatal.

In the words of Grigoriy Karasin, director of the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry's Information and Press Department, the Russian foreign policy department and "other relevant" departments are now working out a set of additional measures designed to protect Russia's interests and the security of our citizens in Algeria. Well, such measures are indeed necessary, but in my view they should have been worked out long ago. After all, the fundamentalists did not begin waging their war on the Algerian authorities just yesterday.

To be fair, though, much has already been done. Since November 1993 over 1,500 people have been evacuated to Russia. The Algerians agreed to reinforce the protection of our institutions, and specialists have been transferred away from remote locations and housed together. On the other hand, in the conditions of what is essentially a civil war, no security measures can objectively guarantee the safety of our citizens 100 percent.

### Zhirinovskiy Seeks Cooperation With Japan's LDP

*LD0104063194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0530 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Varlamov]

[Text] Tokyo, 1 Apr—The Liberal Democratic Party of Russia [LDPR] advocates cooperation with Japan, and Vladimir Zhirinovskiy "is not planning any aggressive

actions vis-a-vis that state." This was stated to ITAR-TASS today by Yevgeniy Bolshakov, State Duma deputy from the LDPR, who was the first representative of this party to visit Japan at the invitation of the Foreign Ministry as a member of the Russian parliamentary delegation. The delegation has left for Moscow today after its week-long stay here.

The deputy said that of all political forces of Japan, the LDPR would like to maintain contacts with the LDPR. The program of the delegation had included a meeting with representatives of that party, which used to be the ruling party in Japan. Yevgeniy Bolshakov believes that in the course of this meeting "certain mutual understanding of the commonality of partisan interests of factions of both parties in their respective parliaments" was achieved. "Of course one cannot say that the two parties are alike, but it appears that the LDPR and the LDP of Japan have common concerns," he believes.

Vladimir Zhirinovskiy had extended invitations, via Bolshakov, to the leaders of the LDP of Japan to visit the congress of the Russian party which begins on 2 April in Moscow. However, ITAR-TASS was told in the headquarters of the LDP of Japan that no official document inviting party leaders to the LDPR forum in Moscow had been received, and doubt was expressed as to the feasibility of receiving it before the start of the congress.

Asked whether the LDPR leader was planning to make a personal appearance in Tokyo, Yevgeniy Bolshakov said that Zhirinovskiy probably intends, in principle, "to take a closer look at Japan;" however, there are too many acute problems at home, and at least "April and May have been fully booked in his political diary."

### Yeltsin Aide Denies Kurils Withdrawal Planned

*LD3103225494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1520 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Tamara Zamyatina and Anna Melnikova]

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS—Russian presidential spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov denied on Thursday [31 March] allegations about the existence of a "secret presidential decree on the withdrawal of Russian troops from the Kuril islands."

The statement to this effect was made by Viktor Ilyukhin, head of the State Duma Committee on National Security.

Speaking at a press briefing at the Kremlin on Thursday, Kostikov said that the decree is not secret and has not been published because of it is purely technical nature.

The spokesman noted that the decree envisages the withdrawal from the Kuril islands of "long-obsolete equipment and the maintenance personnel." Additionally, the decree provides for better border protection, rather than "surrendering" the islands to Japan as the opposition claims.

### Japanese Ships Warned Over Maritime Violations

*LD3103131794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1257 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Aleksandr Kopnov]

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS—The Russian Foreign Ministry warned Japanese vessels against violating Russia's state border and announced its readiness to employ all legal means to prevent incidents like that.

Addressing today's briefing in Moscow, Foreign Ministry spokesman Grigoriy Karasin reported that at 7:30 local time on March 30, five Japanese low-tonnage vessels had penetrated for 5.9 kilometres into Russian territorial waters near the island of Anuchin. A patrol ship of the Japanese directorate for safety at sea was staying not far off. The captains of the Japanese vessels ignored orders to stop given from Russian patrol ships and a helicopter. After being chased, the Japanese vessels left Russian territorial waters at 9:55.

In this connection, the spokesman went on to say, it should be recalled that the Russian side has repeatedly drawn Tokyo's attention to such violations and pointed to their negative effect upon the general atmosphere of Russian-Japanese relations.

"Regarding such violations as inadmissible, we insist that the Japanese side take necessary measures to prevent them in future", Karasin stressed. Russian coast guards will use all rights they have under the Russian law "on state border" to prevent border violations, he warned.

### Poltoranin Seeks Closer Ties With Asia

*LD3103134294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1250 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Kutakhov]

[Text] Tokyo March 31 TASS—The Russian Parliament believes that its foreign policy should not be oriented only at the West. It should also vigorously develop ties with countries of the Asia-Pacific region, specificaly with Japan, Mikhail Poltoranin, chairman of the Committee on Information Policy and Communications in the State Duma of the Federal Assembly, said in an exclusive interview to ITAR-TASS on Thursday [31 March]. He arrived in Tokyo at the invitation of the Japanese Parliament.

Poltoranin said priority in this area should be given to contacts at regional level rather than to the development of interstate ties where there is more bureaucratism and inertia. The initiative of local government bodies should

be encouraged for which they should be given more rights and greater freedom, Poltoranin said. He said there is a need for caution in the approach to this process so as not to upset the balance between federal structures and local authorities and not to set in motion centrifugal forces.

Poltoranin told ITAR-TASS that he is to meet Japanese Premier Morihiro Hosokawa and other Japanese leaders during his visit. "I am going to tell the head of the cabinet that it is time for Japan to recover form slumber so as not to lag behind other states, competitors, that now begin to do business with Russia," Poltoranin said. To attract foreign partners, the Russian Parliament embarked on drafting a solid legal basis guaraneeing protection for foreign investment. A number of draft laws will be completed in April or May.

### Joint Commission With Mongolia Meets on Borders

*LD3103212694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2023 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Kim Boldokhonov]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar April 1 TASS—Co-chairmen of the joint Russo-Mongolian commission on checking the border between the two countries met on Thursday to discuss verification and demarcation issues.

The border is several thousand kilometers long, and only the last 500 kilometers now await demarcation. The commission members are to define more accurately geographical coordinates of the remaining stretch and to legalize relevant documents.

We have agreed on all the technicalities, distributed the tasks and confirmed mutual readiness to accomplish the programme, Luvsandorjin Mundagbator, chairman of the Mongolian delegation, told ITAR-TASS on Thursday.

We took on an important task: We must complete checking the state border in 1995 and to report to the respective parliaments about the results by the end of the same year, he said.

## Yeltsin Says Civic Peace Accord May Be Signed 28 Apr

*LD0104112994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1030 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Anna Melnikova]

[Text] Moscow 1 April, TASS—"The agreement on civil peace among the main political forces of Russia is planned to be signed on 28 April," Russian President Boris Yeltsin told ITAR-TASS during the presentation of credentials by several foreign ambassadors in the Kremlin today.

The president said that the draft text was ready and had already been forwarded to the State Duma and the Council of the Federation. Now "work will be started with the parties in order to reach final agreement on some points." "Not a bad document has been drawn up," the president noted.

In Yeltsin's opinion, the draft agreement on civilian peace would not be published for the time being, because "there may be suggestions by this or that party or group." This is why, Yeltsin believes, "it would be unethical to publish the document now."

Yeltsin also said that he would probably discuss the draft agreement during his meeting with Yegor Gaydar, expected to take place in the Kremlin today.

### Accord 'Open to Discussion'

*LD3103225994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1509 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Tamara Zamyatina and Anna Melnikova]

[Text] Moscow 31 March, TASS—"The main goal of the agreement on civil accord is to preserve the existing elements of civil peace," Russian presidential spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov said.

Speaking at a press briefing in Moscow on Thursday, Kostikov said that President Boris Yeltsin is studying the text of the agreement and has already had talks with the chairmen of both houses of the Russian parliament on this matter.

"The text of the agreement has no form of a finished formula yet and is open to discussion," Kostikov said. He did not rule out the possibility of publishing the draft agreement.

The spokesman drew the journalists' attention to the importance of the mechanism of the implementation of the agreement. To this end, a conciliatory commission will be set up to act as an arbitrator in disputes between various political parties or organisations. "This will be an open commission which will work also openly," Kostikov continued. The commission will seek to "resolve the disagreements on early stages" and "introduce and mold the culture of political compromise in society."

Speaking about the content of the agreement on civil peace and accord, Kostikov noted that it consists of 7.5 pages and is divided into several sections—preamble of a declarative character and chapters about the ethnic and regional policies, spiritual and moral responsibility and terms of the implementation of the agreement.

Yeltsin hopes to set the process of signing the agreement in motion at the end of April. The number of possible participants is about 25, but the agreement will be open to anyone wishing to sign it afterwards as well, he said.

### Draft Agreement Outlined

*LD3103210694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1843 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] INTERFAX has received the draft agreement on civil accord submitted today to the Federal Assembly chambers' Chairmen Ivan Rybkin and Vladimir Shumeyko by Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

The eight-page draft document consists of six sections. In part, the draft document obliges the parties to the agreement to refrain from introducing constitutional amendments harmful to the situation in society. The parties also commit themselves not to initiate any political campaigns in favor of early elections to federal bodies not mentioned in the Constitution.

The participants in the agreement undertake to refrain from using violence to settle any kind of problem. Initiators of rallies, manifestations and strikes should assume responsibility for the peaceful character of such actions. The parties call not to use interpretations of the events of August 1991 and September-October 1993 as a pretext for further confrontation.

The draft document requires the federation's constituent members to refuse to change their constitutional status within the next two years.

A permanent Economic Conference is to be established in order to coordinate proposals in the sphere of economic policies for the period in which the agreement is valid. In accordance with the draft, representatives of the president, the government, the Russian Central Bank, the Federation Council, the State Duma, major trade unions of workers, commodity producers and entrepreneurs will participate in the agreement.

In accordance with the document, political parties and movements and public organizations must under no circumstances establish any armed formations. Any attempts to utilize the state power structures for support of political programs and demands are to be considered as illegal and immoral.

The parties believe that a permanent Conference on Security could become an efficient instrument for

working out coordinated proposals in the sphere of security. The State Duma and the Federation Council leaders will be included in the Russian Security Council in order to shape coordinated state policies.

A conciliation commission composed of representatives of the president, the government, the Federal Assembly chambers, the State Duma factions and well known public activists and artists is to be set up in order to work out a mechanism for implementation of the agreement.

If the agreement is violated, the Conciliation Commission will:

—Make a statement in the media;

—Raise the issue of the exclusion of such a participant from the list of signatories;

—Make proposals on political accountability of those responsible for violation of the agreement going as far as their dismissal.

In accordance with the draft, the agreement is to be concluded for a two-year term and can be extended with the consent of the signatories.

### Rybkin Supports Yeltsin Against Extremists

*AU3103140694 Hamburg DIE WOCHE in German 30 Mar 94 p 16*

[Interview with Duma President Ivan Rybkin by Andrzey Rybak; place and date not given: "Cock-Crows"]

[Text] [Rybak] The traditional question of the Russian intelligentsia is: Who is to blame? Who is responsible for the current crisis in Russia?

[Rybkin] I believe we are all to be blamed for that, but the intelligentsia more than others. Even though it started perestroyka, it did not present a concrete program for work. We have lost nine years with the search for it—and we have not been successful up to now. Why not? Precisely 70 years ago even the Bolshevik economic experts managed to stabilize the country within a few months! However, they were all shot later.

[Rybak] Today the Duma and the president are calling for harmony. Does this mean that the various political forces no longer want to blame each other?

[Rybkin] It costs enormous time and energy to be constantly looking for someone to blame. And we do not have any time anymore, we must concentrate on overcoming the profound crisis.

[Rybak] How do you want to do that?

[Rybkin] We must regain control over the economy. The state companies must be controlled by the state again—just as in Germany. The private sector must be expanded and its share in the overall product must be increased. The Duma should primarily prepare laws that are necessary for overcoming the economic crisis. Then we need laws that ensure the development of a rule-of-law state in Russia: Laws about citizenship, the Constitutional Court, the penal code, the election law.

[Rybak] You were the driving force behind the Duma's decision on amnesty. If the released extremists, like Aleksandr Barkashov or Viktor Anpilov once again strive for confrontation, as they are already announcing, would you feel personally responsible?

[Rybkin] If these people once again stage brawls, fighting, and all kinds of Russian gladiator games in the streets, to amuse other countries, we, the Duma, the president, and I myself, will put these people behind bars again. Then nothing will help them anymore.

[Rybak] Several Duma deputies recently said that deposing the president is their roost important goal. Is the call for harmony not also to be seen as an admission of helplessness by the opposition? According to the new Constitution, the president is backed by the Army, the police...

[Rybkin] The acceptance of the Constitution on 12 December 1993 was a vote by the people for the president. Therefore, I consider all calls for the ousting of the president as political cock-crows. Now we must sit down together and work, even if this may be difficult for many people. However, this is expected of us in all towns and villages in Russia. There are many people who can just shout and not work. This applies both to rightist and leftist fringe groups.

[Rybak] When the Supreme Soviet was dissolved on 21 September 1993, Boris Yeltsin announced early presidential elections this year. Will the Duma insist on that?

[Rybkin] The Duma has no right to do so. In the Constitution it says clearly: The president remains in office until the end of his term—and this is 12 June 1996.

[Rybak] In Yeltsin's speech on the state of the nation at the end of February new tones were heard—away from the shock therapy, turning toward Greater Russian imperialism. Has Yeltsin's policy changed or is all this political tactic?

[Rybkin] I believe that the president simply analyzed the mood in the society and reacted to it. This is done by any head of state.

[Rybak] The president's administration uses any opportunity to humiliate the Duma. Does this not give rise to feelings of revanche among the deputies?

[Rybkin] I do not share this opinion. The Duma cooperates closely with all structures of the president, with the government, and with the Federation Council. Possibly, there are a few exceptions, people who have not been

able to overcome the events of the past months and want to put a fire under the president's behind again and again.

[Rybak] The politicians speak of harmony, the people are suffering. Could mass protests not throw the country into a civil war?

[Rybkin] This danger exists. However, I believe that our appeals have a positive effect. The people are fed up with these power struggles at the top. They want social peace. The energy that is lost in the power struggles is needed somewhere else. Among the people it is said: In Russia so much energy is wasted for whistling that the locomotive does not start moving.

[Rybak] Will the opposition not make use of this explosive situation to grab power?

[Rybkin] Parties are founded to come to power. Perhaps this time again someone will try to grab control of the helm. However, I would not advise anyone to do this, because no single party would be able to lead the country out of the crisis.

[Rybak] A power struggle has broken out between Moscow and the regions. Can this lead to national conflicts?

[Rybkin] The center must give up part of its power to the regions. It is simply impossible to rule such an enormous country centrally. In Germany this is understood very well—the laender have a certain independence. We have 89 regions; they should elect their governors themselves. Today the governors are often hated, the people break out in a rash when they just see them.

## Yeltsin May Tackle 'Hooligans' in Reelection Bid

*LD3103173894 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1336 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[From the "Panorama" program]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] A briefing was given today in the Kremlin by the Russian president's press secretary Vyacheslav Kostikov. Among the journalists attending was our commentator Yuriy Simenov, who is now with us in the studio. What have you to tell us, Yuriy Aleksandrovich?

[Simenov] [Passage omitted] We journalists were told that the president's work schedule for April was packed solid, which says much about his capacity for work, but the essence of this apparently is that April will be a kind of example of a tactical change in the political climate in Russia.

[Announcer] What does that mean?

[Simenov] In the main this means that the president and his administration will head toward cooperation with all constructive political forces—including those of the opposition—with all parties and parliamentary factions and the leaders of the chambers. Among other things, the latest meeting between the president and the speaker of the State Duma has taken place.

Among other things, the president presented him with the draft agreement on civic peace and accord—that very document being talked about so much today.

[Announcer] As you know, an alternative draft agreement on civic peace and accord signed by our opposition figures has been published in the press. Lapshin, Glazev...

[Simenov, interrupting] Questions were also put about this, too. They said that the opposition is effectively outstripping the situation, officially. You know, in so far as the degree of responsibility which the opposition bears is a lot less, the attitude was quietly negative, so to speak. At any rate, that draft, which was prepared by a large group of experts and representatives of various parties and political sections will clearly be at the base of public discussion. That draft document is about seven and a half pages long. It is being handed around now for all the main political forces and figures to familiarize themselves with it and, on the whole, it is already open for discussion. It is no secret that it may be published in the press in the next few days. As for signing it, if we take into account possible amendments, it is possible that this will be somewhere like the end of April. The draft document is aimed at being in operation for about two years—until the next presidential elections, it seems. As to the monitoring of its implementation, there are plans to found a conciliation commission for the period.

[Announcer] Who will be in the conciliation commission?

[Simenov] The representatives who sign it. At the first stage, representatives of roughly 25 parties, factions, and all the political forces and others.

[Announcer] And that quite obviously includes the hardline opposition?

[Simenov] Whoever wants to sign it. It is an open document. Specialists on international law know what that means.

Now for the second important point—presidential elections. In the opinion of the press secretary, a number of newspapers have been in a hurry to forecast that Boris Yeltsin will decline to take part in the coming presidentials. Well, we were told that time and the course of events will show that they should not be in a hurry. If the opinion of society and the voters will be inclined toward the president putting his candidature forward again, then the possibility cannot be ruled out. It will be determined by his duty and responsibility to the voters. As to other candidates—Rutskoy and Zhirinovskiy were asked about, among others... [pauses] there was a very sharp reaction on the part of the press secreatry. I wiil quote him without any commentary: He said that Russia

deserved better than to have people voting for political hooligans and foul-mouths. That is how he put it. Tough talk.

The next point is that I asked Vyacheslav Kostikov on the Russian president's attitude to Nazarbayev's proposal regarding the creation of a new Eurasian Union. The answer given was rather surprising. Yes, it had been talked about. This was confirmed, but Boris Yeltsin is for the time being showing a restrained interest in this. He will study it, taking into account the opinions of other CIS leaders. This will certainly be discussed on 15 April at the summit in Moscow. He is against hasty decisions in this matter. Perhaps the idea of a new Union and the idea at the basis of the CIS may be combined at some stage.

The next important point is about the passions raging about the recent decision by the government on customs duties. The opinion of the president, as heard from the lips of his press secretary, is that in principle the pluses from taxing certain goods being imported into Russia were well balanced, but the possible minuses were badly thought out. We know about the minuses and about the views of the mayors of the big cities.

This roughly means that the policy of some sort of balanced, moderate protectionism in relation to Russian entrepreneurs and industry will continue. The idea is correct, but specific measures will, clearly, be corrected. However, there is no friction whatsoever on this issue between the presidential administration and the government. Everything is being sorted out quietly. [passage omitted]

### Kostikov on Zhirinovskiy, Rutskoy Running for Office

*LD3103201394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1619 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondents Tamara Zamyatina and Anna Melnikova]

[Text] Moscow, 31 Mar—"Those who are constructing a scenario for Boris Yeltsin to leave the political scene in 1996 are disassociating themselves from the mood in society to ask the president to put forward his candidacy in the coming elections." This was the opinion expressed by the head of state's press secretary, Vyacheslav Kostikov, at today's briefing in the Kremlin.

Asked about the possibility of Rutskoy or Zhirinovskiy coming to power, Vyacheslav Kostikov remarked on "the amorality of such an alternative" to the president in office. Furthermore, he stressed, "the very thought of their coming to power lowers the hurdles of political morals in Russia because people with the mentality of hooligans and foul-mouths should not become presidents of a great power." The head of state's press secretary expressed regret at the fact that militant appeals made recently and being made today by the persons mentioned seemed to pass by those set on seeing Rutskoy or Zhirinovskiy become president.

### Zhirinovskiy Charges Cabinet With Inaction

*LD3103203894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1640 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] The leader of Russia's Liberal Democratic Party Vladimir Zhirinovskiy believes that to expect concrete actions from the Russian cabinet "would be madness." He made this statement at a meeting with his voters in the Schelkovsky constituency where he was elected to parliament. A party spokesman in the Duma has quoted him as saying that "the cabinet is not working and is paralyzed, functionaries just care about their prosperity."

"The State Duma has no real levers to influence this government. We are reviewing the situation so that our deputies and Duma committees can prepare documents for our future government and there would be no need for it to start everything from scratch," Zhirinovskiy declared.

### Yabloko Chief Calls Zhirinovskiy 'Paid KGB Informant'

*MK0104074094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 1 Apr 94 p 1*

[SEGODNYA report: "Liberal Democratic Party of Russia Chairman Called 'Paid Informant'"]

[Text] Yesterday, addressing a vast throng of journalists, a leader of the "Yabloko" parliamentary bloc took revenge on the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia [LDPR] faction chief, who had earlier publicly accused him of collaborating with the CIA. "The reason Vladimir Volfovich [Zhirinovskiy] knows so much about who is whose agent and who is not is because he was the KGB's paid informant and had access to secret documents," Mr. Lukin said. "As for me, indeed—sooner or later one has to own up, after all—I sometimes do hand important information over to the U.S. secret services. For instance, recently I passed accurate information about the state of Vladimir Volfovich's health. So now the CIA knows for sure what all others can only guess."

### Kostikov on Instigators of Versions of Coup Story

*LD3103172094 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1520 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondents Tamara Zamyatina and Anna Melnikova]

[Text] Moscow, 31 March—"The investigation into the case of the 'versions' of the coup d'etat has thrown up the three people who, technically speaking, were the perpetrators of the provocation," Russian Presidential Press Secretary Vyacheslav Kostikov said at today's briefing in the Kremlin; not to mention the fact that the name of the person behind "version No. 1" is already known to the

public, he recalled, meaning the journalist Gleb Pavlovskiy. "The question now is whether there are clients behind these people, something the investigation will now reveal," Vyacheslav Kostikov said.

Replying to a question as to who would benefit from this provocation, the press secretary emphasized that neither the president nor his team "had gained any dividends from this sensational story, which is testimony to the lack of any interest on their part in this petty game."

In Vyacheslav Kostikov's opinion, those who were interested in this provocation are those political forces who have been striving "to sound out the level of stability in society and the degree of the president's staying-power." He believes that on both these criteria, "the result has proved positive. Even the extremist political forces have not used the provocation to make statements, and the president did not interrupt his holiday, although a year ago he would surely have got into an aircraft and flown to Moscow."

So, Vyacheslav Kostikov concluded, this impartial story has nevertheless demonstrated a definite "level of civic accord in society." At the same time, the president's press secretary did not argue with journalists over the fact that the publication of the "versions" of the coup reflected a degree of indifference on the part of society to political scandals on the Olympus of power.

## Russia's Choice Party Sets Out Program of Reform

*LD3103132294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1251 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS commentator Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow 31 March, TASS—Practical work to create Russia's Choice Party begins as of today. Yegor Gaydar, leader of Russia's Choice faction in parliament, said in an exclusive interview to ITAR-TASS.

The main directions of the programme of Russia's Choice Party have been defined, Gaydar said. He described it as the programme for the next stage of Russian reform.

Gaydar said the main purpose of Russia's Choice Party is to pass on from weak market mechanisms that have just begun to function to a steady market system based on private property.

Gaydar believes Russia now has two main strategic problems: The creation of reliable guarantees for property and the easing of the tax policy. He said the simplest truth which the party wants compatriots to understand is that the cutting of state expenditures is the only way to cut taxes.

The leader of Russia's Choice Party is aware that it will be very difficult to enlist public support for the implementation of what is planned. He has confidence in the interests of skilled workers in the increase of capital investment in production and of the number of well-paid jobs. The intelligentsia is interested in the preservation of democracy in Russia, and business people are interested in long-term prospects for the activity to form private economy, Gaydar said.

He said Russia's Choice Party will have fixed membership, broad freedom in debating tasks and rigid discipline in fulfilling decisions.

## Rumyantsev, Boldyrev, Others Create 'People's Alliance'

*MK0104100094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 1 Apr 94 p 1*

[POSTFACTUM report: "'People's Alliance' Patriotic Movement Created"]

[Text] A group of political figures came forward yesterday with a statement about the creation of a new Russian patriotic movement, the "People's Alliance." One of the movement's masterminds, Dmitriy Olshanskiy, has said that preparations for its establishment have been in progress since early January. The statement reads: "We come forward with an initiative to unite the patriotic intelligentsia, all citizens of Russia. We consider as the paramount task the shaping of a policy and tactics of national reconciliation." The document is signed by Sergey Glazyev, Dmitriy Olshanskiy, Oleg Rumyantsev, Yuriy Boldyrev, and others.

## Official Discusses Presidential Security Service

*MK0104105094 Moscow OBSHCHAYA GAZETA in Russian, No. 13/38, 1-7 Apr 94 (Signed to press 31 Mar) p 2*

[Interview with Andrey Oligov, Russian Federation Main Protection Directorate (MPD) official, by Rodion Morozov in the "Hello" column; place and date not given: "Vitruk Puzzles the MPD"]

[Text] Constitutional Court acting chairman Nikolay Vitruk told a press conference: The Main Protection Directorate [MPD] needs reorganization. He suggested that it ill suits the MPD to engage in operational activity and provide material supplies and everyday services. OBSHCHAYA GAZETA's correspondent Rodion Morozov phoned Andrey Oligov, an MPD representative.

[Morozov] How far does MPD jurisdiction extend?

[Oligov] Briefly, we are responsible for ensuring the security of the president's residence—the Kremlin (MPD chief Lieutenant General Mikhail Barsukov is also Kremlin commandant), the president himself, and also a specially defined circle of state officials. The MPD also includes the traffic [komendantskaya] service, the administrative service, and the medical service. The MPD's aggregate strength, including the presidential

regiment, is approximately 6,000. To compare: In the United States the security service numbers up to 33,000 people.

[Morozov] How is the range of persons needing your "services" established?

[Oligov] The list of these people is prepared in accordance with a presidential edict.

[Morozov] Are members of the Constitutional Court among them?

[Oligov] In the past, we also ensured their protection. At the same time, certain measures were undertaken to minimize threats with respect to the justices: and there were such threats. Who ensures the security of the constitutional justices, I do not know, but it's not us. In its time the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet's Committee on Defense and Security drafted a Russian Federation law on state protection of Russian legislative and executive power bodies and top state officials. It was envisioned that protection of all the three branches of power will be entrusted to a single body—the Main Protection Directorate. And then, organized with it should be a presidential security department, an executive security department, a legislative security department.... But the law was never adopted....

[Morozov] How would you respond to the "charge" of engaging in operational activity?

[Oligov] The operations department has always been organic to the MPD; and this is justified. The law on operational and investigative activity also extends to the MPD. Otherwise, how, without a corresponding operational apparatus, can we possibly monitor information about threats with respect to government officials?

[Morozov] And still, how extensive are the powers of your operations department? Do its officers have the right to tap somebody's telephone or monitor his apartment or detain a suspect?

[Oligov] No. If we pursue a plan involving terrorist intentions, we do this in "linkage" with the Prosecutor's Office.

[Morozov] What about the "provision of material supplies and everyday services"?

[Oligov] Here, honestly, I find it hard to understand Vitruk. The MPD is tasked to maintain order at the [presidential] residence. To this end it is necessary to have an administrative unit as part of it. There is a team of construction workers, naturally civilians, who engage in maintenance and modernization of particular buildings and premises. Whatever else was meant, I cannot even imagine.

## Economic Issues

### Fedorov: No Reforms in Last 3 Months

*LD3103230394 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1505 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] In the past three months the government has not done anything that could be described as reform. However, during this time nothing bad was done, apart from the imposition of customs duties. This was stated today by former Finance Minister Boris Fedorov.

Fedorov does not intend to join the opposition to the government and will act in support of the submitted draft budget, he stated at press conference.

Asked about his attitude to the idea of Kazakhstani President Nazarbayev about the creation of a Euro-Asian Union with a single currency, Fedorov said that he supports that kind of proposal if the integration will be of the Western Europe type where a supranational currency, the ECU, is current together with national currencies.

### Former Finance Minister Warns of Economy Collapsing

*AU3103130694 Hamburg DIE WOCHE in German 30 Mar 94 p 13*

[Interview with former Russian Finance Minister Boris Fedorov by Andrzej Rybak; place and date not given: "In July Things Will Get Going"]

[Text] [Rybak] There are rumors about a coup in Moscow. President Yeltsin is shaken. Now he wants to slow down economic reforms. What now?

[Fedorov] How can Yeltsin slow down something that has long come to a halt? The last reform efforts go back to November. The government has been passive for months. The only consolation: This way they cannot do anything wrong.

[Rybak] Prime Minister Chernomyrdin has signed the 1994 draft budget. The deficit is 62.4 trillion rubles (some 62 billion German marks). A catastrophe for Russia?

[Fedorov] The draft is quite tough, but it is not realistic. Earnings have been greatly overestimated. Before I resigned, we were estimating earnings at 90 trillion rubles. Today, the government is talking of 120 trillion. This is just palliation.

[Rybak] Deputy Prime Minister Zaveryukha has demanded thousands of billions of rubles for agriculture. The military-industrial complex demands public orders. How can Chernomyrdin cope with this pressure?

[Fedorov] He has to try. We all know that once the deficit reaches the 100-trillion ruble mark, a collapse cannot be prevented. Hyperinflation will ruin the economy.

[Rybak] You have been predicting this since your resignation last fall. But inflation is no higher today than it was then. Are you a malicious pessimist?

[Fedorov] The promised funds still have not flown into the economy. I do not expect inflation to rise to 35 percent per month before July.

[Rybak] What is going to happen then?

[Fedorov] No one can turn their back on our reform process completely. No one wants to close down the 2,000 new banks, 180 stock exchanges, or 1,000 insurance companies. But we will lose a lot of time.

[Rybak] Why is Yeltsin not applying the emergency brake immediately?

[Fedorov] Because Yeltsin is not sure himself who has the best solutions. He wants to give the left-wing directors one last chance to try their way of state planning. Only when they fail with their centrally controlled economy will Yeltsin step in, saying: Now you see what you have done.

[Rybak] The government now wants to increase the use of nonmonetary methods of economic control....

[Fedorov] What is that? I do not know such a thing. Perhaps such a discovery will get the government the Nobel Prize. But, seriously: The government should work out a uniform course and stick to it.

[Rybak] Your policy of shock therapy is said to have brought misery to entire groups of the population. Is this blame justified?

[Fedorov] Real average incomes increased by 10 percent in 1993. Per capita food consumption also went up. The ruble has become a normal currency again. I still get letters from all over the country. People say that for the first time they know what full shelves in shops are.

[Rybak] Forty percent of the population live in poverty. You did not succeed in establishing a social network.

[Fedorov] For inflation relations, public social expenditure has not gone down, but I admit, assistance often went to the wrong people. We will have to create a new distribution network, pay social benefits also in kind.

[Rybak] You are warning against creating a ruble zone with Belarus. Why?

[Fedorov] You cannot introduce our currency in a foreign country.

[Rybak] Would economic integration not be beneficial to everyone? Two-thirds of the fall in production in Russia goes back to the collapse of relations with the former Soviet republics.

[Fedorov] Real integration begins with a number of political decisions. If two countries prefer a different economic course, have different tax laws and a different monetary policy, introducing a common currency would simply be stupid.

[Rybak] You are chairman of the parliamentary commission for central bank and credit policy. What do you want to achieve?

[Fedorov] The Central Bank and its president, Victor Gerashchenko, are largely to blame for the bad economic situation. The Central Bank's credit policy has been catastrophic and keeps stimulating inflation. We have to put an end to it. Gerashchenko is not an economic expert nor is he a banker. He does not believe in money.

## Yeltsin Promises To Pay Debts to Miners in Apr

*LD3103142494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1419 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondents Tamara Zamyatina and Anna Melnikova]

[Text] Moscow 31 March, TASS—"Boris Yeltsin promises to pay off debts to coal-miners in April," the Russian president's spokesman Vyacheslav Kostikov told today's briefing in the Kremlin.

The spokesman explained that "loss-making mines will be gradually closing down with due regard for the social and human factors." According to him, the so-called "miners' problem," which is so acute at the moment, stems from the bygone economic system which has become completely obsolete. Kostikov also reported that President Yeltsin intended to meet the government for talks on this issue.

## Shokhin Presents Payment Timetable to Coal Miners

*LD0104005694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1843 GMT 31 March 94*

[Text] An amount equal to 50 Bn [billion] rubles has been made available Thursday for the urgent needs of the coal mining industry, Deputy Prime Minister Aleksandr Shokhin told 12 pickets outside the government headquarters. Another 60 Bn will be transferred Friday and in April 300 Bn rubles will be made available to the industry every week from state funds.

Shokhin emphasized that these payments were made possible by predictions of stable revenue next month. There are no such predictions for subsequent months and so such a timetable could not be outlined. "We don't wish to make promises on which we cannot deliver," Shokhin said.

He added that he had been appointed Thursday to chair the inter-sectoral commission on socioeconomic problems of the coal mining communities (this position had once been occupied by Yegor Gaydar—IF) and intended to give much attention to this work.

Shokhin and senior officials of numerous Russian ministries will have a meeting with 500 miners representing various communities who picketed the White House on 30 and 31 March. Shokhin will also tell them about the steps the government is taking to stabilize the coal mining industry.

"Local developments will depend on the miners' response to these proposals," Vitaliy Budko, chairman of the Russian Coal Mining Industry Trade Union, told Interfax following the meeting with Shokhin.

### Agriculture Minister on Possible Tariff Revision

*LD3103204594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1640 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Russia's Agriculture and Food Minister Viktor Khlystun has disclosed that the cabinet had not yet discussed the possibility of revising the new custom tariffs imposed as of 15 March on food and other products, however, debates could start in the next few days. Meeting the press in Moscow on Thursday, he spoke in favor of preserving the new tariffs on food as a means to create a civilized market and safeguard the interests of domestic commodity producers.

He reported that the cabinet had sent 1 trillion rubles to farms for the spring sowing and would provide more credits as of early April. This year's state allocations for agriculture will total 5 trillion rubles. Khlystun argued that since funds for agriculture had been set aside "very late," there had been delays with the acquisition of spare parts, fuel and lubricants, and pesticides. "The situation regarding sowing is alarming but not desperate," the minister said.

## Military Issues

### Baykonur Agreement Hailed

*947Q0104A Moscow TRUD in Russian 30 Mar 94 p 1*

[Article by Vitaliy Golovachev, TRUD political observer: "Baykonur No Longer a Bone of Contention. Russia Leases Space Launch Facility for 20 Years"]

[Text] After the collapse of the USSR, Baykonur suddenly became a "bone of contention," a "disputed issue" between Russia and Kazakhstan. This immense and extremely complicated complex, which occupies tens of thousands of hectares and has 12 launch pads, as before, embodies the cutting edge of scientific and technical progress. Who would have thought, 40 years ago, when they were selecting the site of the "harbor of the Universe," that in time the space launch facility would end up on the territory of another state?

Baykonur was built entirely by the Soviet Union, which invested immense material funds in it (and the lion's share came from Russia). Many of our present difficulties could have been avoided if the separation of the USSR into individual states had proceeded, as it were, more smoothly, taking into account the complex problems and mutual interests, and if issues of fundamental significance for Russia (including Baykonur) had been resolved in a calm situation, enlisting experts, on the basis of in-depth preliminary development.

But history had its own ideas. After the collapse of the USSR difficult times befell the space launch facility. The ambiguity of its status, the general confusion, the rupture of economic ties, the sharp reduction of financing under conditions of the severe crisis being experienced by Russia—all this placed Baykonur on the verge of ruin. Buildings and roads are being destroyed, the spacious installation and testing facilities are in need of repair... Not so long ago there were 100,000 people living in Leninsk—the capital of the space launch facility—and today there are no more than 60.

It is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain the discipline so necessary in the space center. Recently a fire was reported in the assembly-testing facility, which previously would have been quite impossible to imagine. But, still, more than 20 planned launches were carried out from Baykonur last year. But this required immense efforts...

At the same time Kazakhstan, which had received the space gift, had to decide what to do with the space launch facility after that. Negotiations with Russia began. And then from somewhere came the figure of $7 billion—as much as was initially demanded by representatives of Kazakhstan for "damage caused to the earth in Kazakhstan" during all the time of Baykonur's existence. This is evidence not only of an unrealistic approach to the problem but also of a desire (in general, understandable) to "squeeze" as much as possible out of the situation that had developed. Russia began to think seriously about building a new space launch facility near the missile compound Svobodnyy-18 in Amur Oblast and expanding the Plesetsk space launch facility in Arkhangelsk Oblast. In turn, Kazakhstan and Ukraine tried to interest the United States in Baykonur, but that turned out to be not so easy...

It became clear that deciding the fate of Baykonur could not be put off any longer. Recently negotiations have been proceeding on a more even-handed, realistic basis. Representatives of Kazakhstan were asking hundreds of millions of dollars as payment for rent. Before the meeting of Presidents B. Yeltsin and N. Nazarbayev, things became especially heated in the negotiations among the experts; it was, as musicians say, a "crescendo." The specialists met daily including last Friday, and Saturday, and Sunday, and sometimes the discussion became very bitter. Clarification of disputed issues sometimes dragged out until after midnight.

Ultimately their positions came closer together, although a number of disagreements still remained. The Russians agreed to pay $82 million a year for rent. But Kazakhstan was insisting on 150 million. The presidents

would have to find a compromise. And they found it; they settled on the sum of $115 million.

Of course, this is a considerable sum. Let us recall that, by participating in the creation of the international orbital station, Russia will receive $100 million from NASA (United States) each year. This, as we can see, is less than the rent for Baykonur for a year. Moreover, Russia is bearing the immense costs of maintaining the space facility. Last year it amounted to R39.6 billion (in last year's prices) and this year, according to estimates from specialists, it will take more than 250 billion.

But still, adding up the pluses and minuses, one can say with confidence that the agreement signed by the presidents of the two countries concerning Baykonur is a very important and mutually advantageous step which can only be welcomed. Russia has neither the forces nor the money to build a new space facility today. And linked to Baykonur is the implementation of large-scale, long-term international programs (in particular, it is planned to have repeated flights of American astronauts to Mir within the framework of the project for creating a Russian-American orbital station). These programs produce considerable currency revenues, without which it would be hard for domestic space science to survive. On the other hand, Kazakhstan too will receive a great advantage from leasing the space facility to Russia.

It is especially important to emphasize that, in keeping with the conditions of the agreement, the rights to ownership of movable and immovable property which has appeared since 31 August 1991 in Baykonur will belong to Russia. That is, now Moscow can invest money in Baykonur without fear of losing if there is an unfavorable development of events.

The agreement specifies that the term of the lease will be 20 years with an option to extend it another 10 years. The space facility will be serviced by Russian citizens.

The agreement signed by the presidents is a "framework" agreement. On its basis will be developed a leasing agreement, which is to be signed in the near future.

And so, after two years of uncertainty, negotiations that would become lively and then die down, mutual suspicions and reproaches, Russia and Kazakhstan have finally taken a serious step toward one another, resolving in a civilized manner one of the most difficult and painful issues in relations between our countries. A good sign!

### Arms Trade Chief Sees $20 Billion in Sales

*MK3103115094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 2*

[Unattributed report: "Amounts of Arms Sold by Russia May not Change"]

[Text] Viktor Samoylov, general director of the "Rosvooruzheniye" state company, maintains that Russia can potentially sell in 1994 $20 billion worth of arms and military hardware (nearly $2 billion in 1992). Mr. Samoylov has stated that Russia is ready to trade with the traditional partners: Middle East countries, India, China, African, and East European countries. Also, according to him, deliveries have fallen because, beginning in 1991, Russia went over to settlements in cash and stopped the granting of credits to its customer countries. Besides, Russia lost $10 to $15 billion over the UN sanctions against Libya and Iraq. According to him, Russia, unlike the Western countries, received no compensation from the United Nations and the IMF for the economic ties with them that were severed.

### Navy Says Radiation Normal After Sub Sinking

*LD3103203494 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1640 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Samples of sea water and of the sea bed in the vicinity of where the nuclear submarine Komsomolets sank in the Norwegian Sea showed that radiation levels there stayed within normal background values over 10 recent days, the Russian Navy press office reported.

The report was made public in response to allegations, made public on 29 March 1994 in NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, that the radiation situation had dramatically deteriorated in the area.

The Northern Fleet Press Office emphasized that radiation was continuously monitored in the area where Komsomolets had sunk. Now the research ship Semyon Dezhnyov is staying in the area. The instruments it carries and the skill of its personnel make it possible to obtain reliable data on the situation.

## Regional Affairs

### Rybkin Meets With Yeltsin, Comments on Nazarbayev Plan

*LD3103223694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1640 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] State Duma's Speaker, Ivan Rybkin, met Russian President Boris Yeltsin in Moscow on Thursday. They discussed in detail all issues of concern to society, Rybkin told INTERFAX.

Rybkin said Yeltsin had given him the draft agreement on civil accord in Russia which was still being worked on. Rybkin pointed out that no terms had as yet been announced for signing the document. He added that there was no reason for hastily working out the agreement since it was very important. He stressed that a large number of socially significant institutions were to sign it—political parties, religious denominations, the government, trade unions, the president and the Federal Assembly chambers.

Rybkin said the draft agreement would be considered by the State Duma's Council next Monday. Thereafter, it is

to be considered by the parliamentary factions and only then will it be submitted at a plenary session of the State Duma.

Commenting on the initiative by Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev on the establishment of a Eurasian union, Rybkin emphasized that the single economic space already provided for similar legislation in this sphere. Serious efforts by the CIS Parliamentary Assembly are needed to bring the legislation together and some new institution like the one which exists in the European Union, a kind of common parliament, may be needed.

Such a parliament is necessary as a body which will coordinate activities of countries seeking closer economic cooperation.

However, Rybkin believes that the proposal on the introduction of a single currency on the territory of the Eurasian Union put forward by Nazarbayev is preliminary. Rybkin repeated that national currency units existed in the EU [European Union] together with the single currency unit—the ECU—and that this model must not be ignored.

### Novosibirsk Election Results Reported

*944F0507A Novosibirsk VECHERNIY NOVOSIBIRSK in Russian 29 Mar 94 p 1*

[Unattributed report under the rubric "Choice '94": "They Won the Elections"]

[Text] According to preliminary data that VECHERNIY NOVOSIBIRSK has obtained, elections to the oblast soviet will be confirmed as valid in 34 out of 49 electoral districts.

In rural districts (there are 24 of them) elections met the requirements everywhere; in Novosibirsk, however, only 10 out of 25 districts qualified. Thus, unless there are some surprises (which is extremely improbable), the following administration heads will be named deputies to the Novosibirsk Oblast Soviet: Kolyvanskiy Rayon—Viktor Nozdryukhin; Moshkovskiy—Aleksandr Korchagin; Dovolenskiy—Vitaliy Ugnenko; Kochenevskiy—Grigoriy Makarenko; Kuybyshevskiy—Valeriy Lepeshkin; Novosibirskiy—Anatoliy Chastikin; Toguchinskiy—Nikolay Baraulin; Cherepanovskiy—Georgiy Ivashchenko; and Koltsovo settlement—Nikolay Krasnikov. Keeping them company are Aleksandr Petrov, the chairman of the Kozlovskoye joint-stock company (Barabinskiy Rayon); Aleksandr Kudryavtsev, the director of the Linev construction materials combine; Nikolay Cherepkov, the director of the Iskitimskiy Izvestkovyy Karyer limited liability partnership; Anatoliy Khilchenko, executive director of the APZT [closely-held joint-stock enterprise] Dzerzhinskoye (Karasuk); Oleg Votyakov, the director of the Novomayskoye joint-stock enterprise (Krasnozerskiy Rayon); Yuriy Bugakov, chairman of the board of the APZT Irmen livestock-breeding plant (Ordynskiy Rayon); Valentina Usova, chief engineer of the Suzun furniture factory; Gennadiy Naumtsev, deputy chief of the MPMK-2 [mobile mechanized convoy] in Tatarsk; Aleksandr Bulgakov, the head of Novosibirskavtodor; Vitaliy Trunov, the director of the Chulyma power grid; Vasiliy Kononov, the director of Kyshta secondary school No. 1; Vladimir Karlov, the director of vocational-technical school No. 16 (Berdsk); and Viktor Kuznetsov, department chief of the Novosibirsk administration of the State Committee for Antitrust Policy (Berdsk). Among the winners are the current oblast soviet chairman Anatoliy Sychev and Vladimir Shleyev, Novosibirsk Oblast administration chief of the Federal Treasury of the Russian Federation Ministry of Finance.

In Novosibirsk, the following heads of rayon administrations won in their electoral districts: Dzerzhinskiy—Vladimir Krivushkin; Oktyabrskiy—Valeriy Shaposhnikov; and Central—Igor Lyuzenkov. Among the winners are two general directors—Aleksandr Belosokhov of the chemical concentrates plant and Anatoliy Stepanov of the meat combine; Konstantin Komarov, the director of the Siberian Analytical Center and the rector of the Siberian State Railways Academy; Aleksandr Melnikov—another representative of the Novosibirsk chemical concentrates plant, group leader in the office of chief designer; Aleksandr Plyushkin, chief physician of Pervomayskiy Rayon's city hospital No. 9; and Pavel Isayev, senior researcher in the Nuclear Physics Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences' Siberian branch.

### 'Bureaucrats' Victorious in Rostov Elections

*PM3103121094 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 2*

[Report by Gennadiy Belotserkovskiy under the "Elections" rubric: "Bureaucrats Become Don Legislators"]

[Text] Rostov-na-Donu—The Rostov Oblast Legislative Assembly elections were declared valid, having passed off amid a low level of enthusiasm on the part of the electorate, with just 35 percent turning out to vote. What is more, the elections were disrupted in Rostov's two largest districts. So it is that the first session of the "Don Parliament" will bring together not 45 deputies, as planned, but 43.

"The victory of the administration over democracy is absolute," Sergey Ivanenko, an eminent political expert from Rostov, said in comment on the results. "Two-thirds of the deputies are top bureaucrats."

I glanced at the lists of "lucky winners." And, indeed, there are 10 heads of city and rayon administrations, four holding the office of deputy head, and three leaders of departments which are subordinate to the oblast administration head. There are three chiefs of Internal Affairs Administrations—oblast, city, and rayon. There is one banker, one counterintelligence staffer, and the deputy chief of a workshop. There are three entrepreneurs, three journalists, three kolkhoz chairmen, and

three major enterprise directors. It is interesting that Kozitsyn, ataman of the Oblast Cossack Union of the Don Host, did not appear among the elected—he lost the election, and this is an indication of the degree of popularity of the Cossack movement in the Don, which has declined in the past year.

Of course, there was the inevitable furore. Aleksandr Boyko, a native of Rostov and a senior lecturer in law at Rostov University, does not believe he was defeated. He told me: "If you count up the votes cast in my favor at the 28 polling stations, and such documentation is available, then I beat Karachentsev, head of the administration of Rostov City's Sovetskiy Rayon, by 142 votes. However, the district commission, having spent the whole night sitting at the computer to complete the simple task of adding up the votes, accorded a winning margin of four to him."

An official complaint has been lodged. and the matter now rests with the Oblast Electoral Commission. But even if it is upheld, this will not affect the overall situation. As forecast by sociologists, there is no point in expecting a division of powers on the Don. The new parliament will simply be another cabinet, another tier in the bureaucratic pyramid. And, when a session is held, virtually the entire body of the parliament could go to the local governor's office for a detailed briefing.

Incidentally, Boyko, a qualified lawyer, considers it unacceptable in a democratic state for "intermediaries" in the form of certain "working groups," set up under administrations at various levels to "give technical aid to the electoral commissions," to come between the voters and the electoral commission. In practice, the lawyer believes, these working groups are exceeding their powers by securing an advantage for their own chiefs.

"In their desire to shield themselves from a truly independent legislative power, the bureaucrats have clearly overdone it," political commentator Ivanenko believes. "After all, by law, two out of five deputies in the Legislative Assembly must work on a permanent basis. It is unlikely that any one of the newly elected will resolve to leave their top jobs in exchange for posts which are far less lucrative, laying to rest a civil service career into the bargain. I am convinced that this parliament will simply be unable to begin its work. Furthermore, the Russian Federation State Duma may adopt a law on local organs of power, under which this combination of deputy and bureaucratic functions will be forbidden. What then? More elections?"

So, the Don executive can be congratulated. It has become the parliament. The only thing is, will it arrive at the truth in debate with itself?

## Five Elections in Tatarstan Ruled Valid

*PM3103133794 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 5*

[Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission Decree No. 203 "On Establishing the Results of the Elections of Russian Federation Federal Assembly State Duma Deputies in Single-Seat Electoral Districts on Republic of Tatarstan Territory," signed by N.T. Ryabov, chairman of the Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission, and I.V. Galushko, secretary of the Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission, and dated Moscow 25 March 1994 followed by "List of Russian Federation Federal Assembly State Duma Deputies Elected to Single-Seat Districts 13 March 1994"]

[Text] Elections of Russian Federation [RF] Federal Assembly State Duma deputies were held 13 March 1994 in five single-seat electoral districts in the Republic of Tatarstan.

On the basis of the minutes of the district electoral commissions dealing with elections to the RF Federal Assembly State Duma in Almetyevskiy No. 23, Moskovskiy No. 24, Naberezhno-Chelninskiy No. 25, Nizhnekamskiy No. 26, and Privolzhskiy No. 27 single-seat electoral districts and in accordance with Article 40 of the Statute on Elections of State Duma Deputies in 1993 the Russian Central Electoral Commission [CEC] has resolved that five RF Federal Assembly State Duma deputies have been elected as a result of the ballot.

The RF CEC decrees that:

1. The elections of RF Federal Assembly State Duma deputies in Almetyevskiy No. 23, Moskovskiy No. 24, Naberezhno-Chelninskiy No. 25, Nizhnekamskiy No. 26, and Privolzhskiy No. 27 single-seat electoral districts on the territory of the Republic of Tatarstan are ruled valid.

2. This decree and the list of elected RF Federal Assembly State Duma deputies are to be published in the press.

[Signed] N.T. Ryabov, chairman of the RF CEC

I.V. Galushko, secretary of the RF CEC.

[Dated] Moscow, 25 March 1994. [Decree ends]

List of Russian RF Federal Assembly State Duma Deputies Elected in Single-Seat Electoral Districts 13 March 1994

Republic of Tatarstan

Almetyevskiy Electoral District No. 23:

Gennadiy Vasilyevich Yegorov, born 1946, Russian, higher education, member of the republic's "Unity for Progress" party, chairman of Almetyevsk City Soviet of People's Deputies, Almetyevsk City.

Moskovskiy Electoral District No. 24:

Oleg Viktorovich Morozov, born 1953, Russian, higher education, not a party member, political commentator for the newspaper RESPUBLIKA TATARSTAN, Kazan City.

Naberezhno-Chelninskiy Electoral District No. 25:

Vladimir Nikolayevich Altukhov, born 1954, Russian, secondary technical education, not a party member, director of the "Oleandr" private enterprise, Naberezhnyye Chelny City.

Nizhnekamskiy Electoral District No. 26:

Gabdulvakhid Gilmutdinovich Bagautdinov, born 1939, Tatar, higher education, not a party member, director of the Chistopol children's home, Chistopol City.

Privolzhskiy Electoral District No. 27:

Valentin Vakhtangovich Mikhaylov, born 1944, Russian, higher education, not a party member, Republic of Tatarstan Supreme Soviet people's deputy, Kazan City.

## Growing Link Between Foreign Business, Petersburg Crime

*PM3103145594 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 30 Mar 94 p 8*

[Report by Correspondent Yuriy Kukanov under "Crime" rubric: "'Black-Market Business With a Foreign Accent"]

[Text] St. Petersburg—Acting jointly with Finnish police officers, a Petersburg special service has neutralized a gang consisting of Russian and Finnish citizens. It had committed a string of serious crimes, including a murder on Finnish territory.

In the last year or two reports of this kind have been filling the pages of criminal summaries more and more often. The criminal world is closely monitoring foreign capital's penetration of Russia's northwest border region. There are currently 7,285 joint enterprises registered in St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast. Foreign investment totals 7.5 billion rubles. According to information from Sergey Sidorenko, chief of the Regional Organized Crime Administration, around 20 percent of foreign business on St. Petersburg's territory is controlled by local criminal structures. Last year 1,576 foreign citizens—tourists, businessmen from joint enterprises, diplomatic mission staffers, and students—fell victim to criminal transgressions.

A special militia service has been formed in the St. Petersburg and Oblast Internal Affairs Main Administration in order to ensure foreign subjects' personal security and the security of their property. Vladimir Karpankov, this subunit's chief, reported that it is responsible for protecting 494 facilities at which foreign citizens work. Five protection enterprises and four security services have been set up jointly with German, British, U.S., Belgian, Finnish, and Swedish criminal experts. The special service staffers admit themselves that foreign businessmen are reluctant to cooperate with local law-enforcement organs, preferring to come to an agreement with criminal groupings. There is information that some Finnish firms, for example, are paying racketeers up to 100,000 markkas per month.

An increasing number of cases is coming to light where foreign businessmen, on coming into contact with the criminal world, are being actively involved in breaking Russian law. Thus, St. Petersburg criminal experts have halted the activity of the "LST-Metall" Russian-Finnish joint enterprise, which specialized in the duty-free export of aluminum abroad.

Incidentally, the special services note that it is the foreign party which most often suffers when Russian laws are broken. The St. Petersburg Administration for Combating Organized Crime has detected the theft of 2.6 million bottles of liquor belonging to the Spanish firm "Codimport International." During the investigation it was ascertained that, in order to avoid paying taxes and to obtain maximum profit, an entire consignment of liquor was not registered at the firm's Moscow branch but handed over for resale to Russian "businessmen," who swindled their Spanish partners.

## Large-Scale Crime Swoop Carried Out in St. Petersburg

*PM3103143094 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 2*

[Report by Sergey Krayukhin: "St. Petersburg: Largest Crime Swoop"]

[Text] St. Petersburg—A preventive operation codenamed "Signal 2," in which personnel of the Internal Affairs Directorates of Murmansk, Kaliningrad, Pskov, Smolensk, Arkhangelsk and other oblasts of Russia and the Republic of Karelia took part, has ended in St. Petersburg City and oblast.

A simultaneous investigation of all zones and scenes of crime—stations, markets, hotels, warehouses, and parking lots—was carried out for the first time. A 500-strong motorized infantry regiment of internal troops and a 300-strong motorized militia detachment were involved in the operation. Checks and controls on railroads and highways leading to Moscow, Pskov, Novgorod, and Murmansk were stepped up. People worked 12-hour shifts without leave during the operation.

The results in brief are that more than 3,500 crimes were detected, including 43 murders, around 300 robberies, and more than 200 thefts and cases of taking away of vehicles. A huge number of firearms and edged weapons, around 40 kg of drugs, and money and valuables worth 718 million rubles and $29,000 were seized from criminals. The level of crime halved in St Petersburg City and oblast during the two weeks of the operation.

## Petersburgers Fear Administrative Changes Endanger Services

*PM3103140794 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 31 Mar 94 p1*

[Report by Yuriy Kokanov: "Army of Officials...Retreating. But for How Long?"]

[Text] In the Smolnyy the ides of March were marked by the high-speed transformation of the local executive administrative structures. The Government of St. Petersburg has been formed, and the administrative and territorial structure of the city has been altered.

The Government of St. Petersburg, which is headed by Anatoliy Sobchak, includes 11 top officials, mainly former chairmen of City Hall sector committees.

From the end of March seven city rayons will vanish at a stroke from the map of St. Petersburg. They are being replaced by three new, larger ones—Tsentralnyy, Admiralteyskiy, and Kurortnyy. The authorities have a totally convincing case: Expenditure on maintaining the rayon-level bureaucracy must be reduced.

As for the citizens, they have no particular enthusiasm for this latest reshaping of administrative structures. The man in the street has always been accustomed to our bureaucrats finding themselves a job which suits them. People are more worried about something else: What is going to happen to the social welfare offices, housing offices, militia departments, advice centers, and other rayon services to which everyone has become accustomed.

## Kazan Hosts Conference of Regional Law Enforcement Officers

*PM3103134394 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 31 Mar 94 First Edition p 6*

[Unattributed report: "Consultation"]

[Text] A regional conference of leaders of Volga Region organs of prosecutor's offices, internal affairs, and counterintelligence has been held in Kazan.

Representatives of Bashkiria, the Mari Republic, Mordovia, Tatarstan, Udmurtia, Chuvashia, and Nizhniy Novgorod, Orenburg, Samara, and Ulyanovsk Oblasts participated in it. The topic of the conference was the struggle against organized crime, drugs trafficking, and the illegal circulation of weapons.

Measures were devised which envisage cooperation between the ministries and departments in neighboring regions. An appeal has been adopted to the Federal Assembly and the Russian Federation president to immediately produce and adopt a package of legislative acts designed to combat organized crime, corruption, drugs trafficking, and the illegal circulation of weapons.

## Cause of Mezhdurechensk Crash Still Not Known

*PM3103152994 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Apr 94 First Edition p 2*

[Telephone interview with Ivan Mashkivskiy, head of Russian Main Inspectorate for Civil Aviation Flight Safety and deputy director of the Air Transport Department, by Ruslan Ignatyev; date, place not given: "Stop Press: Was Terrorism Cause of A-310 Crash?..."]

[Text] Your ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA special correspondent has learned that the Air Transport Department has received a copy of a tape recording of the crew's conversation during the tragic flight. The specialists who decoded the so-called "black boxes" at a Paris laboratory allegedly returned to the idea that the A-310 crash near the city of Mezhdurechensk was caused by an act of terrorism. They have rejected the hypothesis that the aircraft depressurized during the flight....

Your ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA correspondent spoke over the telephone with Ivan Mashkivskiy, head of the Russian Federation Main Inspectorate for Civil Aviation Flight Safety and deputy director of the Air Transport Department, who is in charge of the technical commission studying the cause of the tragedy, and asked him to comment on the information that he has received.

[Ignatyev] Ivan Yefremovich, you have evidently already done some work to find out the causes and circumstances behind the crash and can probably shed some light on the situation.

[Mashkivskiy] Our commission has indeed conducted a preliminary investigation at the crash site. But we first took the engines, some aircraft components, all the computer equipment, computers, fragments, and parts of the fuselage to Novokuznetsk Airport and laid them out in a definite order on the airfield. Specialists carefully inspected everything and drew some conclusions.

[Ignatyev] Can you confirm that the disaster was caused by an act of terrorism?

[Mashkivskiy] Let me be blunt and say that we have not found confirmation of that. The only thing that I can say now is that the aircraft hit the ground in a flying position [v poletnom polozhenii]. That is, all the flaps were retracted, the landing gear was in the appropriate position, the engines were running until the last moment [rabotali do kontsa], and the plane was banking at an angle of 30 degrees. We also have other information. But it is too early to talk about that. We will receive the decoding of the special instruments—the "black boxes"—in a few days and we will check the information that we receive from Paris against our own information and only then produce our final findings. In a word, there is still a great deal of work to be done to find out the real cause of the accident.

[Ignatyev] Is any work under way at the scene of the crash?

[Mashkivskiy] No. We had to stop all the searches 30 March because flooding cut off our route to the crash site. Rescue personnel and other services managed to remove the fuselage and parts of the aircraft in good time. Relatives of the dead have been allowed to visit the scene of the tragedy. They were taken there by helicopter. The whole area is strewn with flowers.... [Mashkivskiy ends]

A civil memorial service for the crew of the A-310 who perished in the disaster was held yesterday in Moscow at Sheremetyevo Airport. The crew's remains were brought from Novokuznetsk. Relatives of the foreign passengers who died in the tragedy have flown to Moscow. They have to identify the bodies.

## Omsk Units To Comprise Cossack Draftees

*PM3103142594 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 2*

[Report by Dmitriy Gutenev: "Cossacks in Operation: An Army Being Formed in Omsk"]

[Text] The spring draft to the ranks of the Russian Army is approaching. The creation of a number of military units manned by Cossacks, which will be located in Omsk, will be a novelty. According to military commissariats' explanations, members of public organizations of Cossacks will be drafted under their banners, and if there are none of these in the areas, citizens who are their direct descendants will be drafted. Cossacks will also be drafted on contract as officers, warrant officers, sergeants, and soldiers.

## Planned Bryansk CW Destruction Plant Opposed

*PM3103141994 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 31 Mar 94 First Edition p 8*

[Report by Anatoliy Grachev: "Wasn't Chernobyl Enough?"]

[Text] Bryansk—For many years a strictly guarded facility existed in the rayon center of Pochep in Bryansk Oblast. Nobody there apart from the oblast party committee first secretary knew what was behind the barbed wire. Now the shroud of secrecy has been lifted and the residents of Pochep have found out that chemical weapons are being stored nearby.

But it was another discovery that particularly bothered them: It is planned to build a facility here to destroy the said weapons.

Local residents posed the reasonable question: "Surely Bryansk Oblast, which was contaminated by radiation from Chernobyl, should not also become an area for destroying chemical weapons?" Signatures are being collected in opposition to the plant's construction.

## 'Linear Proton Accelerator' Offers Safe Nuclear Power

*PM3103132394 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 0600 GMT 24 Mar 94*

[From the "Novosti" newscast: Video report on Theoretical and Experimental Physics Institute's work on safe nuclear reactors by Vladimir Polozhentsev, identified by caption]

[Excerpts] [Polozhentsev] The problem of safe nuclear power stations is a worldwide concern today. In ordinary nuclear reactors the chain reaction sets in after the fuel rods have been lowered in, and it is controlled automatically by means of special absorbers. However, the regulation of this process cannot be 100-percent reliable. In the event of a malfunction a reactor runaway can occur, which is very difficult to halt.

In the nuclear-electric installation proposed by scientists at the Theoretical and Experimental Physics Institute the chain reaction is triggered by a powerful proton beam directed at a beryllium target from which it knocks out neutrons. The same physical processes take place, but they can be halted at any moment by switching off the electricity, for example.

[V.V. Vasilyev, deputy head of a Theoretical and Experimental Physics Institute laboratory] Given funding and two and a half years of work, the installation could be ready for physical startup.

[Polozhentsev] But funding is a problem at the Institute. Because of the low wages, talented staff are leaving for commercial ventures. Five billion rubles are needed to complete the work on the accelerator. Meanwhile "Mosenergo" is threatening to cut off electricity in the near future as a result of unpaid electricity bills. [passage omitted]

[Polozhentsev] Despite all the problems, Russian nuclear physicists are continuing to perfect the linear proton accelerator. It will now depend on the government how successful their efforts are.

## International Affairs

### Kravchuk, Canadian Foreign Minister Discuss Ties

*LD3103224594 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1935 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Kiev [no dateline as received]—On 31 March, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs Andre Ouellet had a one-hour meeting with Ukraine's President Leonid Kravchuk during which they discussed issues pertaining to deepening friendly relations between the two countries. After the meeting, Andre Ouellet told journalists that the Canadian Government allocated $2.5 million for medicine and education in Ukraine, $4 million for humanitarian aid, and $3 million for the Red Cross Society. Other payments will also be made.

Asked to comment on the results of the elections in Ukraine, Andre Ouellet pointed out that in the opinion of Canadian observers, the elections were democratic enough and without gross violations.

### Agreements Signed With Canada

*LD3103193894 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1230 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Kiev—Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Anatoliy Zlenko on 31 March met Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister Andre Ouellet who is on an official visit to Ukraine. After the negotiations ended, the sides signed "The Agreement Between the Government of Ukraine and the Government of Canada on Trade and Commerce Relations," "The Declaration on Special Partnership Between Ukraine and Canada," "The Declaration on Cooperation Between the Government of ukraine and the Government of Canada on Implementing the Program of Organizing Environmental Management in the River Dnieper's Basin," and "The Agreement on Cooperation Between the Canadian Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and the Ukraine's Chamber of Commerce and Industry."

Andre Ouellet commented on the event: "The documents signed are a significant step along the path of consolidating relations between Ukraine and Canada. We attach especial significance to economic agreements that have demonstrated that Canadian business will be represented on the Ukrainian market. The Government of Canada is also ready to assist Ukraine in converting its defense enterprises and retraining its military personnel."

Anatoliy Zlenko stressed that relations between Ukraine and Canada were developing consistently, stably, and dynamically. The documents signed, he said, "are the beginning of a special partnership between the countries, which is the world's new phenomenon, and put Ukraine in a position of privilege as well as creating conditions for joint actions on the international arena."

### Zlenko on Results of Supreme Council Elections

*LD3103233594 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1120 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Kiev, 31 March—Commenting on the results of the first round of elections to Ukraine's Supreme Council and analyzing the possible influence of the new council on foreign policy, Minister of Foreign Affairs Anatoliy Zlenko noted: "One would naturally want the future council to be a democratic one. I have grounds to believe that various polar forces will be represented in it and, on the one hand, this will reflect the democratic nature of the council. On the other hand, I think that each deputy, and the council as a whole, reflects the essence of his people—the main bearers of power. Therefore, both the old and new councils will not be able to radically change foreign policy. There are factors that determine the future of our independent state, and any kind of radical changes in this or that direction will not serve the further strengthening of our independence and sovereignty. We have a concept of foreign policy, which has been confirmed by Ukraine's Supreme Council, but we should all understand that the concept is a changeable system, which should adapt in accordance with the relevant realities, but not in a radical manner. I admit the introduction of adjustments to Ukraine's foreign policy, but not radical ones, because such changes could have a negative influence on the attitude of the international community to our state, and this is then dangerous."

### Donbass Chooses To Speak Russian, Join CIS

*LD0104000294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1910 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Gordeyev]

[Text] Donetsk, 31 March TASS—Ukraine's major industrial area of Donbass (the Donetsk coal-mining basin) prefers speaking Russian and joining the Commonwealth of Independent States, according to the results of the consultative opinion polls held last Sunday in the Donetsk and Lugansk regions.

The results published on Thursday indicated that out of 4.5 million voters casting their ballots in the local plebiscites, over 3.6 million would like the Russian language to become that of work, record-keeping, education and science in the area, mainly populated by ethnic Russians.

The same 90 per cent of the voters agreed that the Russian language should be granted the status of a second state language throughout the Republic, which is to be sealed by the Ukrainian Constitution.

The overwhelming majority of the voters also spoke in favour of Ukraine's signing the CIS charter and joining, as a full-fledged member, the economic union and the CIS interparliamentary assembly.

Thus, Donbass has voiced its opinion. Time will show whether it will be taken into consideration by Ukrainian authorities. The Republican prosecutor general's office intends to press for the resolution by the Donetsk regional council to be declared null and void. But even if the court annuls the decisions of the two regional councils, what can be done about the opinion voiced by one seventh of Ukrainian citizens?

### Edict Promotes Cooperation With Russian Oblasts

*AU3103183394 Kiev DEMOKRATYCHNA UKRAYINA in Ukrainian 29 Mar 94 p 2*

["Ukrainian Presidential Edict on Measures for the Development of Economic Cooperation Between Ukrainian Oblasts and Adjacent Border-Zone Oblasts of the Russian Federation" issued in Kiev on 25 Mar]

[Text] In order to expand cooperation between Ukrainian oblasts and adjacent border area oblasts of the Russian Federation, and to promote the development of their economic relations, I resolve as follows:

1. Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers must:

—Prepare, within a month, a draft agreement between the Government of Ukraine and the Government of the Russian Federation or cooperation between the border area oblasts and start negotiations with the Russian Federation on the conclusion of this agreement;

—Elaborate, within two months, with the participation of Donetsk, Luhansk, Sumy, Kharkiv, and Chernihiv oblast state administrations, and adopt normative acts on the legal regulation of relations between the aforementioned oblasts and border area oblasts of the Russian Federation.

2. To grant the following rights to Donetsk, Luhansk, Sumy, Kharkiv, and Chernihiv oblasts:

—To participate in establishing rules of administration in the border areas with an account of local characteristics;

—To carry out, within the limits of established quotas, export-import operations for the needs of the oblasts at preferential conditions, which are to be determined by Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers;

—With the participation of corresponding Ukrainian ministries, to coordinate with the leadership of oblasts of the Russian Federation quotas for free training of specialists in educational institutions of the border area oblasts.

3. To recommend that Ukraine's National Bank, with the participation of corresponding state administrations, promote the creation of joint credits and finance institutions with various forms of ownership for the purpose of financing programs for interoblast cooperation, including investments and credits for entrepreneurs.

[Signed] L. Kravchuk, President of Ukraine

[Dated] Kiev, 25 March 1994

## National Affairs

### Zlenko Appraises Nazarbayev's Eurasian Union Proposal

*LD3103125794 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1120 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Kiev, 31 Mar—During his visit to Moscow, Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev expressed a proposal to create a Eurasian union within the framework of which supernational bodies would be formed to coordinate economic and military policy. Within the framework of this union it is necessary to elect a single parliament by way of direct elections, to create a council of defense ministers and a single defence complex, and also an interstate secretariat, which would be appointed by heads of states, Mr. Nazarbayev believes.

He stated that the countries, which are in agreement to the principles of a Eurasian union, would enter its composition and mutual relations would be developed with the other countries of the former USSR on a bilateral basis. Nursultan Nazarbayev noted that he discussed this issue during talks with Russia's President Boris Yeltsin.

Commenting on this proposal by the Kazakh president, Ukraine's Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko noted: "This is not a new idea for us. It has already been put forward. We have looked and listened to it closely. However, it if is now an official proposal then we should approach it more seriously, study it in detail, define our stance, and make an appraisal. If this is a Eurasian union, then issues of both a political and an economic nature arise as the main factors of future cooperation. Therefore, I am not yet ready to give a final answer. However, I can say that there should be cooperation in the geopolitical space of the former Soviet Union. And this cooperation should naturally be initiated on some kind of an appropriate basis, but without creating such structures that would serve as a supernational body or which would acquire the rights of an international subject. One could cooperate on this basis.

Therefore, Nursultan Nazarbayev's proposal (I think that he will make it at the meeting of heads of CIS states on 15 April) needs to be studied in more detail."

### Donetsk Plebiscite Shows Support for CIS, Russia

*LD3103145394 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1230 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Donetsk—On 31 March, the regional commission for the advisory plebiscite of the region's population, led by Oleksandr Yakutchyk, provided a UNIAN correspondent with the official data on its results. The data shows

that the total number of citizens entered on the ballot list was 3,867,466. The study of the regional population's opinion on four issues was done. The first question: "Do you agree that the Constitution of Ukraine should set down Ukraine's federal land structure?" was answered in the affirmative by 2,227,538 people and in the negative by 419,794. A total of 2,795,221 people took part in the ballot on this issue. There were 147,889 invalid ballot papers.

The question: "Do you agree that the Constitution of Ukraine should set down the functioning of the Russian language as another state language in Ukraine alongside the Ukrainian state language?" was answered in the affirmative by 2,430,821 people and in the negative by 238,017, with 2,788,802 having voted and 119,964 invalid ballot papers.

The question: "Do you agree that on the territory of Donetsk Oblast, the Russian language should be a language of official correspondence and documentation, as well as education and science, on an equal footing with Ukrainian?" was answered in the affirmative by 2,485,949 people and in the negative by 191,791, with 2,793,808 having voted and 116,069 invalid ballot papers.

The last question: "Are you in favor of signing the CIS Charter and Ukraine participating in the CIS economic union and interparliamentary assembly enjoying full rights?" was answered in the affirmative by 2,481,981 people and in the negative by 190,907, with 2,797,424 having voted and 124,536 invalid ballot papers.

## Results of Crimean Elections, Violations Viewed

*WS3103141394 Kiev KIEVSKIYE VEDOMOSTI in Russian 30 Mar 94 pp 1,3*

[Report by Iryna Popova: "'I Am Shocked. Even in Somalia I Did Not See Such Things.' Said Canadian Observer About Elections in Crimea"]

[Text] More than 60 percent of the electors participated in the Crimean elections. It was evident that the Russia bloc would win and preliminary results confirm this. While communists reportedly received 10 to 12 percent of the vote, the Party of Economic Rebirth—7 to 8 percent, the Party of Social Guarantees and the Union in Support of the Republic of Crimea received 3 percent each, the Russia bloc is expected to hit the mark of 65 to 70 percent. Although the 14 seats allocated for parties will not determine the nature of the Crimean Supreme Soviet, representatives of the bloc are the leaders in single-seat districts, where elections will have to be repeated. Names of winners have already been announced in 10 electoral districts. The new professional legislature will be comprised of an electrician from a grain elevator, a messenger from a small company, a mechanic, and a deputy manager of a television center. In two districts (Yalta and Yevpatoriya) the Crimean Supreme Soviet elections did not take place at all. Elections to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet took place in all the districts, although many electors responded to President Meshkov's televised appeal and instead of dropping their ballots into ballot boxes, took them home.

Pro-Ukrainian organizations, along with the Organization of the National Movement of the Crimean Tatars, have issued a declaration and held a news conference emphasizing that representatives of the Russia bloc and members of electoral committees themselves were campaigning right at the polling stations, advising the electors what to do. Ihor Banakh, deputy chairman of the committee "Crimea With Ukraine" cited a remark by Canadian citizen Alexander Shelak, an observer from the Ukrainian Congressional Union of America, who had said: "I am shocked. Even in Somalia I did not see such things." At any rate, after Meshkov, the top official of the Republic of Crimea, advised on television to vote for the Russia bloc and ignore the Ukrainian elections, after he termed the national quotas the Supreme Soviet's mistake and a "departing legislature's deal," few things can be considered shocking.

Meshkov's concern over the national quotas is quite understandable. The results of voting in the Crimean Tatar constituency have demonstrated Kurultay's [Tatars' congress] convincing victory. According to incomplete reports, some 88 percent voted for Kurultay candidates which amounts to the political death of the Majlis [Tatar council] opponent, the National Movement of Crimean Tatars. Kurultay's deputies in the Crimean legislature are the only thing casting gloom over the festive mood of pro-Russian forces. They will hardly put up with this situation, all the more so since Yuriy Meshkov outlined his stance in the following way: "There's God, there's the nation, and there's the president. This is what determines our strategy." That is why the results of the 27 March poll on changing Crimea's status and granting more powers to the president, not yet announced, will provide guidance for action. The Crimean president solemnly promised this to the "Crimean people."

It is worth pointing out that Yevgeniy Saburov, after returning to the Crimea, immediately left for Kiev to meet with Leonid Kravchuk. Under the current circumstances, the subject of their talks seems very intriguing.

## Crimea's Central Electoral Commission Examines Results

*LD3103142894 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1230 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Simferopol [no date as received]—A session of the Republic of Crimea's Central Electoral Commission took place on 31 March. Issues of confirming the results of elections in multiseat districts were examined at the sitting. The commission's chairman Viktor Alsufyev read out a statement by the political council of the "Union in Support of the Republic of Crimea" [Soyuz v podderzhku Respubliki Krym] party, in which are given—in the opinion of the statement's authors—facts of violations in the course of the election campaign and the elections, in particular the call by Crimean President Yuriy Meshkov on the eve of the elections to vote for the "Russia" bloc, and also the holding of a poll of Crimean citizens at the same time as the elections.

In connection with the numerous violations, the political council of the Union in Support of the Republic of Crimea is demanding that the elections be recognized as invalid and that a new time-scale for holding elections be set. It has become known that practically all of the autonomy's parties of a centrist tendency supported the statement.

Having examined the statement, the Central Electoral Commission decided to hand over the materials to the judicial bodies for examination because, as the resolution notes, "only the Republic of Crimea's Supreme Court can recognize the elections as invalid."

The results of the elections in the multiseat district for political parties were examined. According to the election results, the Communist Party of Crimea got two seats out of the 14, the "Russia" bloc 11 seats, and the Party of Economic Revival of Crimea one seat.

In the opinion of observers, supporters of Crimea's President Meshkov can reckon on 60 of the 98 seats in the Crimean Parliament.

Results of the elections in the Crimean Tatar multiseat national district were also examined. In all, 76.18 percent or 102,379 electors of Crimean Tatar nationality took part in the voting. Some 90,959 votes were cast for the kurultay of the Crimean Tatar people. Thus, the kurultay got all 14 seats. Commenting on the results of the voting to a UNIAN correspondent, Refat Chubarov, deputy chairman of the majlis of the Crimean Tatar people, who is first on the list from the kurultay, said: "This is even more than we expected, and I am pleased that our people showed wisdom in voting for candidates from the kurultay."

In a conversation with a UNIAN correspondent on the election results in the multiseat district for political parties, Volodymyr Shevyev, cochairman of the Party of Economic Revival of Crimea, who was confirmed as a deputy from the Party of Economic Revival of Crimea by the Central Electoral Commission on 31 March, noted: "The people supported the president in the elections. I think great prospects are ahead for Crimea if there is unity of judicial, legislative, and executive power."

The results of the election in single-seat national districts were also examined at the sitting of the Central Electoral Commission.

### New Parliament To Take Effect After 10 Apr

*LD3103182194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1358 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Gordeyev]

[Text] Donetsk 31 March, TASS—As it was expected, the first round of elections in Ukraine did not bring even a half of deputies to the new parliament. Only 49 out of 450 deputies were elected, while the parliament can work if the number of its members is no less than 226. The Central Election Committee enacted that the second round must be held until 10 April, and each election district must establish the date on its own.

The elections in Ukraine were held in the atmosphere of unprecedented activity. More than 28 million citizens, that is almost 75 per cent of all voters took part in the elections.

Residents of western Ukraine where the idea of national independence has been forged for many years were most active. The dream about breaking all ties with "imperial Russia" has almost become a religious obsession. That is why almost all leaders of many nationalist parties strive to run in that region.

The distribution of "colours" of the Ukrainian political palette was manifested last Sunday. Only nine out of the 49 deputies represent various nationalist parties, 12 deputies—the Ukrainian Communist Party, which was registered last October, four deputies—leftist parties-social and agrarian. Among the so called "non-party deputies" elected on Sunday, there are people, who are not independent politicians—speaker of the current parliament Ivan Plyushch, former prime minister Leonid Kuchma, former vice-premiers Viktor Pinzenik and Igor Yukhnovskiy.

Residents of eastern Ukraine definitely voted for "their own colour." For example, in Donetsk and Lugansk regions, 11 deputies out of 14 will represent Ukrainian Communist Party. Moreover, none out of 132 communists running for parliament there dropped out. The positions of socialists and agrarians are also very strong.

No doubt, local referendums and public-opinion polls held in the Crimea and in Donbass contributed to political acuteness of current election campaign. Despite firm pressure undertaken by official Kiev, residents of these regions could openly express their opinions on concrete and vital questions. The bulk of Crimea's residents confirmed their strive for dual citizenship and raised their voices against Kiev's dictate.

Almost 90 per cent of residents of Donetsk and Lugansk regions did not only protected the right of Russian language to exist here, but confirmed their will to see it fixed by the Constitution as the second official language along with the Ukrainian.

Nearly the same percentage of voters supported the immediate joining of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the necessity of participating in the CIS interparliament assembly.

Official Kiev will fail to play down the results of the Crimean and Donbass' referendums and to rule them as illegal, observers believe. Res dents of the "obstinate regions" who are tired of prolonged and senseless struggle with the centre expressed their will and deputies and regional authorities now have to take it into account.

### Deputies Wary of 'Political Standoff'

*WS3103154394 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1400 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] We are moving toward democracy in an evolutionary process; this opinion was voiced by Ukrainian Deputies Serhiy Holovatyy and Volodymyr Lanovyy at a press conference in Kiev today. Serhiy Holovatyy believes that the scenario envisioning a vacuum has failed to materialize in spite of the flawed electoral law; and it was the people, who actively participated in the election, that headed off this scenario. In his opinion, after the second-round elections, the new parliament will be able to get down to work. However, it must be reform-minded in nature to operate successfully. You cannot overcome the crisis with an antiquated background, he stressed. Continuing on the topic of economic reform, Volodymyr Lanovyy emphasized: I stand for uniting all economic concepts that would help transform Ukraine into a wealthy state. We have nothing to fight for right now. We must unite. At the same time, Volodymyr Lanovyy said he was concerned about the political standoff that came to a head in the country, as well as the too-politicized election process. He thinks that the electorate cast its ballots either for far-right or far-left candidates. Only those who will work and not just talk should be elected to parliament, he stressed.

### Central Election Commission Reports on Voting

*LD3103211394 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1935 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Kiev—On 31 March the Central Election Commission reported that 801 candidates got through to the runoffs. Of these, 371 persons were nominated by the electorate, 254 by working collectives and 176 by parties.

Among the latter the Communist Party is the leader—108 candidates (27 candidates in Donetsk oblast, 14 in Lugansk oblast and eight in Kharkov oblast).

Other parties are significantly lagging behind the leader: Rukh—26 persons; the Ukrainian Republican Party and the Socialist Party of Ukraine—17 representatives from each; the Party of Labor—three persons; the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists—two persons; the Democratic Party of Ukraine, the Ukrainian Conservative Republican Party and the Christian Democratic Party of Ukraine—one representative from each.

However, the Central Electoral Commission pointed out that these figures did not reflect the absolute representation of the parties because many political party members were nominated either by the electorate or by working collectives.

### Crimean Tatars Question Election Results

*LD0104000194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2023 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Report by UKRINFORM correspondent Lev Ryabchikov for TASS]

[Text] Simferopol 31 March, TASS—The information working group of the national movement of Crimean Tatars send telegrams to the presidents of Crimea, Russia and Ukraine, as well as to the mass media, labelling the 27 March elections to the Crimean parliament as "an act of outrage against the will of the Crimean Tatars" which ensured cooperation of the kurultay-mejlis cohort to the parliament.

Some 90 per cent of the voters in the Crimean Tatar ethnic constituency cast their ballots for candidates from the kurultay- mejlis, while the national movement of Crimean Tatars, which is in opposition to the kurultay, managed to poll slightly above 5 per cent of the votes. The telegram said this outcome was prompted by the intensive treatment of the people by means of the mass media, numerous violations of the voting procedure, overt campaigning for kurultay candidates on the election day, which is banned under law.

The leaders of the Crimean Tatars' movement assess the election results as a plot against Ukraine, Russia and Crimea, as well as the Crimean Tatars, the CIS, the world community, the truth and justice.

### Zlenko Warns Against Foreign Policy Review

*LD3103205994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1640 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko has warned against a crucial foreign policy review by the new parliament. In an interview with INTERFAX-Ukraine about the first round of general elections, the minister pointed to a polarization of views of the first group of 49 candidates who had won parliamentary seats. "A radical shift either way will not help consolidate our independence," he said.

Zlenko stressed that any crucial policy shift may cause a similar change of heart towards Ukraine by the international community.

### Crimean President's Military Adviser on Black Sea Fleet

*MK3103105094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 5*

[Article by Andrey Lekant in the "Trouble" column: "The Situation in Sevastopol Causes Concern, But There Is Still 'Normal, Russian Spirit' in the Fleet"]

[Text] For Crimea's economy, Sevastopol, inseparably linked with the Russian Black Sea Fleet, is a focus of acute problems. This may have been the reason for the many sharp statements made by Mr. Kuznetsov, military adviser to the Crimean president, in a conversation with your correspondent. The former commander of a Soviet Army corps stationed in Crimea, after his unit was placed under Kiev's jurisdiction Major General Valeriy Kuznetsov swore allegiance to Ukraine. And soon after stating that he will not fight with Russia under any circumstances, he was removed

from his post. Later, in summer 1992, he was elected people's deputy to the former composition of the Crimean Supreme Soviet.

According to him, the complexity of the Black Sea Fleet's position today is primarily related to the fact that as of 1 September 1993 Ukraine stopped its financing. It is done by Russia through Privatbank in Dnepropetrovsk. Meanwhile the exchange of rubles for coupons "is proceeding at a robber's rate," constituting approximately half the market rate (the commercial price of the ruble is 20 to 23 karbovanets). In addition, the Black Sea Fleet is charged exorbitant land taxes. What is more, "at the highest tax rate, although no land assessment has been made." As a result, the fleet does not have enough funds even to pay monetary allowances to commissioned and warrant officers.

For its part, Kiev cannot provide even for its own five or six ships (against a hundred or so Russian ones, not counting a border guard brigade). In this connection, "Admiral Beskaravaynyy, commander of the Ukrainian Navy, proposed to Eduard Dmitriyevich Baltin to buy one or several of them."

Furthermore, Mr. Kuznetsov expressed concern over the fact that since May 1992 Ukraine has substantially built up the land component of its Armed Forces in Crimea. At present its strength on the peninsula, including construction troops, is approximately 50,000—"half of what there was in Afghanistan." Moreover, many units have been deployed anew: a mechanized marine brigade in Feodosiya, and an air-mobile unit in Saki. And this given that under the Crimean Constitution and a corresponding Ukrainian law, any changes in the disposition and strength of armed elements, as well as the formation of new units in Crimea, is subject to coordination with Simferopol.

According to Mr. Kuznetsov, the Black Sea Fleet is taking no retaliatory moves and will not violate the agreements signed. In particular there are no plans to create military structures under President Meshkov's control.

Crimea's presidential adviser is inclined to attribute the actions by Kiev politicians to the fact that "they may be afraid of the processes that are unfolding in Crimea." The peninsula "slowly but surely is drifting toward Russia, without declaring its secession from the country. Ukraine will disintegrate by itself. It is economically incapable of existing as a state. De jure, it exists, but de facto, you can see for yourself. A hungry Ukraine and a bubble of nationalism that has burst. Nothing else has remained," Mr. Kuznetsov believes.

Going back to the problems of Sevastopol, Mr. Kuznetsov said that there were two USSR naval schools there. One of them—popularly known as "Holland"—trained specialists for nuclear submarines. The other—named after Nakhimov—prepared missile and artillery men. Ukraine has seized both schools and merged them into one. The "Holland" school, in his estimation, costs more than the entire Black Sea Fleet with its land and sea components, and all of this multibillion equipment and property is in fact falling into disrepair. Meanwhile, this year Ukraine is going to enroll a mere 135 cadets in the school, as against 800 and more previously.

Responding to a question about the morale in the Black Sea Fleet, the Crimean presidential adviser stated solemnly, "The morale in our fleet is normal, Russian. As for the Ukrainian Army, there is practically no morale there."

## IAEA Experts Concerned About Safety at Chernobyl

*LD0104082994 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0700 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[Text] Experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] have expressed grave concern about the state of the Chernobyl atomic electric station. Based on an inspection in mid-March, they concluded that the international safety standard could not be guaranteed.

## Belarus

### Hryb Says Commission Failed To Prove Officials' Guilt

*WS3103161494 Minsk BELAPAN in Belarusian 1600 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] The Belarusian Supreme Soviet has not made any decision on the report presented by Alyaksandr Lukashenka, head of the temporary legislative anticorruption commission. Following examination of the report, none of the proposed draft resolutions was adopted. After that, the parliament decided to end its session, and the work of Lukashenka's commission as well. However, in a conversation with journalists, A. Lukashenka stated that the commission will continue to operate in spite of the fact that six out of its nine members said they no longer want to participate in it. In an interview with a BELAPAN correspondent, Belarusian Supreme Soviet Chairman Mechyslaw Hryb said that no decision was made with regard to Lukashenka's report because the commission failed to present deputies with specific evidence proving any wrongdoing on the part of officials accused of corruption.

### Deputies Conclude 13th Session

*WS3103132894 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1200 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Report by Mikhail Rutkowski]

[Excerpts] At the 13th Supreme Soviet session, deputies have managed to adopt the basic law of our state—the new Constitution of the Republic of Belarus—and the electoral law. They have also managed to authorize presidential power, and adopt legislation on the Constitutional Court. In my opinion, however, economic issues have not been resolved. The Republic still does not have its own, concrete economic program. We are going into the future blindfolded, and looking for a shining path in the darkness.

The so-called personnel issue, which was addressed by Alyaksandr Lukashenka, chairman of the Interim Commission for Combating Corruption, proved to be conclusive at the current session. Yesterday, the interim commission handed over to the deputies a draft resolution on dismissing National Bank Chairman Stanislaw Bahdankevich, Deputy Prime Ministers Mikalay Kostsikaw and Stanislaw Bryl, Uladzimir Radkevich, chairman of the State Committee for External Economic Relations, and Defense Minister Pavel Kazlowski. All in all, Alyaksandr Lukashenka accused more than 60 state officials.

Today, following a debate on miscellaneous matters, the discussion on the report delivered by Lukashenka continued. The floor was taken by People's Deputies Syarhey Antonchyk, Viktar Kuchynskiy, Henadz Lavitskiy, Frants Minko, all of whom were members of the interim commission, and as a sign of protest, they announced their intention to leave the commission headed by Alyaksandr Lukashenka.

Later, the floor was taken by Bahdankevich, Bryl, Kostsikaw, Radkevich, and Kazlowskiy. They all refuted the accusations presented by Alyaksandr Lukashenka. Attorney General Vasil Shaladonaw provided a legal assessment. Alyaksandr Lukashenka delivered the concluding speech. [passage omitted] This concluded the 13th session of the Supreme Soviet.

### Presidential Election Previewed

*LD3103202294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1447 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov and Andrey Petrovsky]

[Text] Parliament speaker Mechyslaw Hryb has told INTERFAX that before 15 April everything will be prepared for nominating candidates for presidential elections in Belarus.

He said for that day it is planned to approve the schedule of the procedures associated with the presidential campaign, to prepare the lists for collecting signatures of people's deputies and citizens in support of different candidates for presidency.

On 15 March it is expected to approve a list of expenditures for the elections. Referring to so far unconfirmed information, Hryb said that the presidential campaign would cost approximately 160 Bn Belarusian rubles.

He said that everything associated with the elections will pass smoothly and openly, without any deviations. Hryb said about the intention to invite CIS and foreign observers to monitor the campaign.

When the president is elected, the state power in the Republic will be stronger and the crisis of power will end, said Hryb. He believes a clear structure of subordination laid in the system of the presidential rule will allow to rule the state efficiently through the presidential representatives in provinces.

IF Note: According to the parliament decision adopted on 30 March, the elections of the first ever Belarusian president will take place on 23 June.

The head of the temporary parliamentary commission for combating corruption Aleksandr Lukashenko officially said about his intention to stand for presidency.

The spokesman for the Republic's prime minister Vladimir Zametalin has said that Vyacheslav Kebich is expected to make an official statement about his intention to run for presidency.

The organization of Belarusian Social Democrats and the United Democratic party decided to nominate for presidency the ex-speaker of the Belrusian parliament Stanislav Shushkevich.

The opposition Belarusian People's Front nominates its leader Zenon Poznyak. The Party of the People's Accord will nominate its chairman Gennadiy Karpenko, while the party Belarusian Scientific Industrial Congress—Federal Director of the the Gorizont association producing TV-sets—Aleksandr Sanchukovskiy.

Still undecided are the parliament speaker Mechyslaw Hryb and the CIS executive secretary Ivan Korotchenya.

Minsk observers name among the main candidates for presidency Prime Minister Vyacheslav Kebich, who consistently pursues the policy oriented for the economic integration with Russia. Staking on the popular idea of a closer union with Russia, Kebich, observers believe, has a big advantage over the bloc of "national patriots" led by Zenon Poznyak who orients on opposite ideas.

Aleksandr Lukashenko, who recently accused of dealing with mafiosi two vice-premiers, three ministers and some other government officials, and also Kebich of patronizing the corrupted officials, is also popular among the people for his struggle with corruption.

With the aim to discredit before the elections his main opponent Vyacheslav Kebich, Lukashenko expects to win a victory despite the fact that he does not have the structural organizations in provinces which could help him during the election campaign.

Observers believe that if the court where the accused want to file a suit against Lukashenko, manages to pass a verdict against him and prove the innocence of the vice-premiers and ministers before the elections, his chances will be slim.

An aspect of the presidential campaign, namely: whether a person who is prosecuted by court, may be candidate for presidency, is the popular talk in the political quarters of Minsk. Lukashenko admits that he has no so far economic program. In an interview with INTERFAX he said that he could be helped by his supporters to draw a program overnight.

Stanislav Shushkevich, ex-speaker of the Belarusian Parliament, is also among the contenders. The stake on the two parties which have their structures in provinces, as well as the organization of servicemen, banned in the Republic, will allow Shushkevich to collect the necessary 100,000 signatures to stand for presidency, forecast the observers.

## Parliament Fails To Adopt Corruption Resolutions

*LD3103204694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1640 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Parliament in Minsk at the end of a session on Thursday has failed to adopt any resolution after looking into findings by the interim anti-corruption commission.

The commission proposed that the Supreme Soviet should dismiss a number of government officials on various charges, among them —Vice Premiers Stanislav Bril and Nikolay Kostikov and National Bank President Stanislav Bogdankevich.

Head of the commission Aleksandr Lukashenko in an interview with Interfax pledged his commitment to further investigations with "the help and understanding of ordinary people and decent members of the Interior Ministry, KGB and prosecutor general's office who may want to cooperate with the commission."

Nor does he rule out the possibility of cooperating with the media because it has a wide spectrum of information. Lukashenko raised fears the next session to be held in mid-May could wind up his commission.

## Issuing of Privatization Vouchers Begins 1 Apr

*WS0104112494 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 1000 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[Text] The amount of state property to be handed over to Belarusian citizens will be based on their age and length of work. The issuing of privatization vouchers has begun today in the Republic. Beginning 1 July, people will be able to purchase stocks, using the vouchers for payments. It has taken almost one year for specialists to work out a mechanism for implementing privatization.

## Belarus Admitted to Customs Organization

*WS0104090594 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0700 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[Text] The Republic of Belarus has been admitted to the Customs Cooperation Council, which is an influential international organization, whose activities are aimed at establishing legal customs regulations at the international level.

## Poll Shows Support for Socialism, Private Ownership

*WS3103135994 Minsk DOBRY VECHAR in Russian 29 Mar 94 p 2*

[Report by RID correspondent Anatoliy Vitkovskiy: "We Need Socialism With a Human Face"]

[Text] This remarkable saying is still favored by the majority of Belarusian citizens, however, currently, it has acquired a "deeper" sense, because the aforementioned "face," according to the opinion of the majority of our citizens, should be... private.

The scenario looks like this: According to the poll "We and Our Time," conducted by the Independent Institute of Socioeconomic and Political Research, along with the International Center of Support of Entrepreneurship, the majority of respondents—40.9 percent—think that socialism is the most appropriate social system for Belarus. Capitalism is supported by 31.6 percent. At the same time, 52.8 percent think that private ownership is economically more efficient. Only 29 percent favor

social ownership. Some 11.7 percent support a rational combination of private and social ownership.

Emotions caused by nostalgia for "the best, the most humane in the world" will likely dominate people's minds for a long time to come. In connection with this, we would like to learn what social order our current leaders are building in our state. It is high time to clarify this provocative question.

### Russia Reduces Gas Deliveries 1 Apr

*WS0104090794 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0700 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[Text] As we have just learned, the Russian gas company Gazprom has been forced to gradually reduce gas deliveries to Belarus beginning 1 April. As a result of the Belarusian-Russian talks held on 15 March, the volume of gas deliveries to Belarus was restored to the level of 54 million cubic meters per day. Since then, however, the Belarusian debt to Gazprom has risen to 500 billion rubles, and it continues to increase. The Belarusian Government's attempts to collect money from Belarusian consumers and pay the debt have so far been unsuccessful.

### Document Shows Further Decline in GDP

*WS3103140194 Minsk BELAPAN in Belarusian 1217 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] As BELAPAN has learned, the State Committee for Statistics and Analysis has disseminated among the top echelons of power a document providing the main indicators of the Belarusian economy in January-February 1994. According to the document, the GDP decreased by 33 percent compared to the corresponding period last year. In particular, production fell by 35.5 percent in industry, in construction works—29 percent, and in the agricultural sector—9 percent.

### Defense Ministry Reports Plans To Sign Bilateral Agreements

*WS0104104594 Minsk VO SLAVU RODINY in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "Belarus Is Expanding Relations in Military Area"]

[Text] As the Defense Ministry Legal Administration has reported, Belarus has already signed bilateral interstate agreements on military cooperation with Russia, the United States, Poland, Ukraine, India, and Moldova. It is planning to conclude similar treaties with Uzbekistan, Lithuania, Bulgaria, China, and Romania in the immediate future. Currently, Belarus and its partners are working on different issues linked with these documents.

## Moldova

### Sangheli Reelected Prime Minister

*LD3103172194 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1548 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Report by the ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Excerpts] Kishinev [Chisinau] 31 March—The parliament of Moldova has today elected Andrei Sangheli, one of the leaders of the Agrarian-Democratic Party, which won the parliamentary elections, the Republic's prime minister. Voting in favor were 82 deputies; 15 were opposed. [passage omitted]

The new prime minister supports the joining by Moldova of the CIS and the economic union, as well as restoring and strengthening ties with the commonwealth countries since the lion's share of Moldovan economy is oriented toward their market.

In an interview with an ITAR-TASS correspondent, Andrei Sangheli said that the former Cabinet of Ministers had not been a team of like-minded persons because it consisted of representatives of various parties. In his words, the victory of the agrarians in the elections makes it possible to form a new government, made up of professionals with a pragmatic approach who will speed up the economic reform and bring Moldova out of the crisis.

The prime minister will submit the list of members of the new cabinet to the parliament as soon as next week.

### Parliament Elects Permanent Bureau

*LD3103174094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1640 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] On 31 March the Moldovan parliament has accepted the resignation of the government. Within the next few days a new prime minister and a new Cabinet will be appointed.

On Thursday, the parliament elected a permanent bureau of the legislative body of the Republic to replace the presidium of the former parliament.

The regulation stipulates that the bureau consists of nine members. Apart from the chairman of parliament and his deputies, the bureau includes six representatives from parliamentary factions.

Chairmen of 10 permanent commission were also elected.

Representatives of the ruling Agrarian Democratic Party of Moldova were appointed as heads of eight commissions. Two commissions are led by representatives of the bloc of the Socialist Party and the Unity movement which gathered 22 percent of votes in parliamentary elections.

### State of Emergency Extended in Dniester Republic

*LD0104081894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0804 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Kholodyuk]

[Text] Tiraspol 1 April, ITAR-TASS—The state of emergency has been extended by another two months - from 1 April to 31 May 1994 by decree of the president of the Moldovan Transdnestrian Republic.

The decree says the state of emergency is to be extended "for purposes of strengthening the civil rights of the inhabitants of the Republic, stepping up the struggle against organised crime in the cities and rural areas of the republic and upgrading the protection of the state system of the Transdnestrian Moldovan Republic."

### Russian Defense Chiefs Deny Increased Attacks on 14th Army

*MK3103103094 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 2*

[Report by Yuriy Golotyuk under the "Property" rubric: "Struggle Flares Up in Moldova for the 14th Russian Army's Legacy." Tiraspol Wants Its Share on a Par With Chisinau"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Moldavia [Moldova] has instantly reacted to Tiraspol's "legislative initiative." A report quickly circulated through ITAR-TASS channels speaks of the fact that "Lieutenant General Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Russian Army in the Dniester Region, has ordered his soldiers and officers to resolutely cut short, even with the use of weapons, any attempts to attack the facilities and personnel of the Army." This was allegedly done "in connection with the latest increasingly frequent cases of attacks on servicemen and threats of violence against them and members of their families from armed mafia-like groupings operating with the tacit approval of the Dniester Region authorities."

Our correspondent was told at the Russian Federation Defense Ministry and the main staff of the ground troops that there have been no reports coming from the Dniester Region about a worsening situation around 14th Army subunits. On the contrary, there have been of late no cases of attacks on servicemen or Army facilities. As for "cutting short any attempts to attack the facilities and personnel of the Army," the servicemen must do that in accordance with service regulations, and with the use of weapons if need be. Thus, there is nothing new in it. The report from Chisinau must have been most probably "timed" to coincide with the eighth round of talks between Moldavia and Russia.

Chisinau continues to insist on a speedy pullout from the Dniester Region of 14th Army units. The more radically minded politicians in the Moldovan leadership demand that this be done before the end of this summer. Moscow maintains that this is virtually impossible. It is in order to "press" the Russian military into making the decision sooner that Chisinau wants a worsening of the situation around the 14th Army units or at least a semblance of such a worsening.

### Chisinau Not Considering Entry to Eurasian Union

*LD3103205594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1640 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Chairman of the Moldovan parliament Pyotr Luchinsky said that his republic is not considering entry in the EURASIAN Union. In an exclusive interview with INTERFAX, he said that the Republic is now considering other issues, such as the creation of parliamentary structures, the formation of a new government and the structure of executive power.

As for the proposal of Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev to create a EURASIAN Union, in Luchinsky's opinion, the implementation of this idea is unlikely under present conditions.

Luchinsky believes that it infringes upon the independence of the new independent states.

"Moldova stands for economic cooperation with all countries and intends to ratify the agreements within the framework of the CIS and the economic union, but we will not create joint political and military structures," Luchinsky said.

### Language Conflict in Moldova Viewed

*AU3103172094 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1244 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 31/3/1994—Daily ADEVARUL comments on a deadline set for 1 April 1994 in the Republic of Moldova: Staff's examination with regard to their knowledge of the state language, an opportunity to reveal the maneuvers of the anti-Romanian quarters aiming at a relapse to the situation existing in the defunct USSR, when the official language in the republic was Russian.

Showing that the previous deadline was 1 January 1994, then postponed "to avoid trouble before the 27 February elections," the paper writes: "The poll is gone, and its returns known: The agrarians hold the majority in the legislative and together with the socialists (former communists and also Russian-speakers of the 'Edinstvo-Unity' movement) they hold two-thirds of all deputy seats. Is this why the deadline for the examination is still uncertain?"—the daily wonders.

"As a matter of fact, the majority's stand is known. The socialists and Russian-speakers made a big fuss, while electioneering, about the enforcement of the state language law. But they circumvented the content of the law. For, the law-makers meant that the examination to be passed only by the executives of the state enterprises and institutions and the functionaries (of the same state

institutions) who get into direct touch with the public. It was only they who ought to have acquired the least knowledge of Romanian language inside six years.

"But, in order to be more convincing, to infuriate their own electorate, the Russian-speaking leaders threatened that the whole population having a different mother-tongue would be fired unless it complied with the above-mentioned provision. Too preposterous to need further comment. But it is just as true that a number of Russians, which is not at all inconsequential, hold leading offices with state institutions and they have not learned Romanian, hoping for a return to the old rules. For, that is what the respective leaders want: The Russian to become a state language once more, along with the language of the majority population, which they call "'Moldovan.'"

## Kazakhstan

### Nazarbayev Comments on Recent Visit to Russia

*LD3103225594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1447 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature: Compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov and Andrey Petrovskiy; edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Text] Commenting on results of his recent official visit to Moscow in an interview with the Kazakh TV and Interfax President Nursultan Nazarbayev said that his idea of creating the Euroasian Union is in essence "just an idea, not an official proposal." He explained that his idea had not been discussed with anybody and is a subject for discussions with CIS leaders. "We will see how leaders of the Commonwealth countries will react to it," Nazarbayev said. IF's note: The Kazakh leader put forward the idea at a meeting with Moscow State University professors in Moscow on Tuesday and continued the subject on the next day during his conversation with Russian mass media officials. Nazarbayev proposed to replace the CIS by a new union of states with single bodies for coordination of economic and military policies and a single currency. He proposed in particular to set up a single parliament, a council of defense ministers, a single defense complex, an executive committee of the union which would be appointed by the heads of the states. Nazarbayev also spoke in favor of a single citizenship for the Euroasian union residents. He proposed that the Russian language be given the official status. The Kazakh president categorically opposed associate membership in the proposed union. [no begin or end parentheses for IF's note]

Observers note that on the eve of his departure from Moscow Nazarbayev claimed that he had discussed the union issue with Russian President Boris Yeltsin. INTERFAX failed to get confirmation of the fact from official sources.

A joint communique on results of the talks between Nazarbayev and Yeltsin says that the sides "expressed readiness to promote efficiency of the CIS, in particular, through speeding up the formation of the economic union."

A high-ranking diplomat in the Russian Foreign Ministry told INTERFAX that Nazarbayev's proposal to creat the Euroasian Union on the basis of the CIS generates more questions than answers.

According to the diplomat, Nazarbayev's idea is "interesting." "Not every idea needs to be elaborated. For example, it is not clear what would be the result of its implementation for the CIS which has just received the status of an observer in the U.N.," the diplomat said. "If closer relations between two or more states of the CIS frightens other countries of the Commonwealth and finally lead to its transformation into a purely formal union, perhaps it would not be the best option."

He said that Russia is interested in the strengthening of the Commonwealth. "It is necessary to find ways to implement the proposals made by the Kazakh president serving this goal," the Russian diplomat said.

In the opinion of Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko, Nazarbayev's concept needs to be carefully examined.

In an interview with Interfax Zlenko noted that for him the idea "is not new. People in Ukraine have studied it before." "At this stage I think "perhaps, there is something in this idea," the minister said [quotation marks, as received].

At the same time, he said that the formation of such a union on the territory of the former Soviet Union should not envisage the creation of structures which would perform "functions of a supernational body or let's say would have the rights of an international subject." Zlenko pointed out that "if this union is based on structures similar to former ministries and departments of the Soviet Union, that is not the best way."

Let us remind you that earlier the CIS Executive Secretary Ivan Korotchenya called the initiatives of the Kazakh president on the creation of the Euroasian Union in an interview with Interfax "rather well-thought and exclusively useful and correct." Korotchenya believes that Nazarbayev's initiave would be put on the agenda of the CIS summit in Moscow on 15 April.

## Kyrgyzstan

### Akayev Supports Kazakhstan Initiative for Eurasian Union

*LD0104102794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0833 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Maynayev]

[Text] Bishkek 1 April, ITAR-TASS—Kirgizstan [Kyrgyzstan] is viewing with understanding Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev's idea concerning the creation of a Eurasian union.

The press service of Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev has announced that he supports the initiative of Kazakhstan's leader and thinks it promising.

"I understand that it can become a subject for a serious discussion by the heads of state of the Commonwealth member-countries at their summit on 14-16 April. I think that the idea and the proposal which specify the main principles and institutions which will underlie the possible formation of the Eurasian union will serve to further the deepening of comprehensive integration of those Commonwealth member-countries which wish to join the process of shaping a new inter-state formation," Askar Akayev said.

## Russian Troop Commander Due in Bishkek To Sign Agreements

*LD0104103394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0836 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Mainayev]

[Text] Bishkek 1 April, TASS—General Andrey Nikolayev, commander of the Russian frontier troops, is expected to arrive in Bishkek on Friday for the signing of a package of agreements on the legal basis of the stay of Russian frontier guards in Kyrgyzstan territory. The documents to be signed include the treaty on the supply of Russian frontier guards in Kyrgyzstan, the treaty on cooperation with the Kyrgyzstan State National Security Committee, the treaty with the Kyrgyzstan Defence Ministry on regulations for Kyrgyz recruits service in the ranks of Russian frontier guards in Kyrgyzstan. A meeting between Kyrgyzstan President Askar Akayev and General Andrey Nikolayev is planned.

The commander of the Russian frontier troops arrives in Bishkek upon the conclusion of his visit to Tajikistan. He had made a fact-finding trip to the Tajik-Afghan border. General Nikolayev intends to report on the situation in the region to a forthcoming meeting of CIS heads of state and to note the need for the observance of arrangements on joint protection on the border. At a news conference in Dushanbe, Nikolayev said that Russia has strategic interests in the region and noted that Russian frontier guards are not to be withdrawn from Tajikistan's territory in the years ahead.

## UN Allocates Funds for Narcotics Program

*LD3103232894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0844 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Boris Maynayev]

[Text] Bishkek, 31 March—Kirghizia [Kyrgyzstan] has become the first Central Asian country allocated funds from the UN International Narcotics Control program.

Lieutenant Colonel Aleksandr Zelichenko, chairman of the State Commission for Narcotics Control, said today that $450,000 were allocated for the 1994-95 period. They will be used for providing equipment for subunits engaged in fighting drug trafficking and for training specialists.

Zelichenko claimed that international organizations are not only giving a fitting assessment of the Kyrghyz antidrug services, but have also outlined a number of measures that will permit the Republic to become integrated in the worldwide struggle against drug dealers.

Today this is necessary. Via Gornyy Badakhshan and Kirghizia drugs from Afghanistan have started spreading across the CIS republics. Via Russia, Afghan opium and marijuana wind up in Western Europe. This year Kirghizia will be able to reach the Kara-Korum highway via China, which will enable Kirghiz freight to get to the coast of the Indian Ocean, into India, Pakistan, and other countries of this region. But specialists claim that, together with economic advantages, the Republic will become the object of drug dealers' close attention. Using the new route, they will be able to transport narcotics in both directions—into Asia and into Europe. It is this that is compelling Kirghizia's law enforcement bodies to attach special importance to stepping up the fight against drug trafficking.

## Azerbaijan

### Iranian Senior Official: 2 Missiles Down C-130 Plane

*LD3103192494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1908 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevindzh Abdullayeva and Viktor Shulman]

[Text] Baku, 31 March (TASS)—The Iranian C-130 military cargo plane which crashed over the disputed enclave of Nagorno- Karabakh was shot down by two missiles, Iranian senior official said.

Agai Aminiyan, head of the team of Iranian experts investigating the accident, said at a meeting with Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev in Baku on Thursday that the plane which was flying from Moscow to Tehran did not have any serious technical flaws which could have caused a crash. It remains unclear so far why the plane diverted from the route.

Because the planes of this type do not have black boxes, the cause may be identified only after deciphering the tapes with recordings of the negotiations between the crew and air controllers. Iranian experts have already been handed over the tapes by Yerevan and Tbilisi and are now seeking to receive recordings from Azerbaijan.

The Armenian side has not assumed direct responsibility for the accident, Aminiyan said. However, it has admitted that its troops had taken the Iranian plane for an Azerbaijani craft. This can serve as indirect proof that it could have been shot down by Armenian troops. Additionally, the Armenian troops do not deny that they did not try to get in touch with the plane in order to identify it.

Aliyev confirmed his readiness to provide the Iranian commission with every possible assistance in carrying out the investigation.

### Aliyev Receives Iranian Delegation on Crash

*NC3103193594 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Today Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev received the members of the commission investigating the circumstances leading to the shooting down of an Iranian airplane by Armenia's Armed Forces near Khankendi [Stepanakert]. Our correspondent Sakit Ochaghly reports:

[Begin recording] [Ochaghly] The republic's president, Geydar Aliyev, said during the meeting that immediately after this tragedy that has befallen the Iranian people he sent a letter to Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani expressing condolences to the families of those who died in the military transport plane that was shot down by Armenia's Armed Forces and to all the Iranian people.

The president also noted that soon after this incident, a special meeting was held and the relevant organs were instructed to provide the necessary help to Iran in investigating the incident.

(Aghayi Aminian), head of the delegation and of the Iranian Foreign Ministry's legal department, thanked President Geydar Aliyev for the warm reception accorded to the delegation and for his great concern and interest in the incident. The guest noted that they left for the site of the tragedy the day after the incident. By that time, the burned bodies in the aircraft had been taken to Yerevan. According to information from the preliminary investigation and from various other sources, the Iranian military transport plane was hit by a missile while at considerable height. Of course, such missiles are not produced in Nagorno-Karabakh. (Aghayi Aminian) also noted that the 32 passengers in the plane were coming to Iran to celebrate Nowruz. The Iranian guests also admitted the fact that the Armenian government, and hence the Armenian Air Force, knew the route of the military transport plane, which had taken off from Moscow. Considering this, why were they unaware of the flight of the peaceful passenger aircraft and shoot it down with a missile?

(Aghayi Rizvani), the representative of the Iranian Ministry of Defense, and General (Aghayi Yusufi) expressed their opinions on the incident.

Geydar Aliyev indicated that we are unable to go to the site of the incident because Daghlyk-Karabakh [Nagorno-Karabakh] and Khankendi are occupied by the Armenian Armed Forces, but we are ready to do everything to help the investigation and clear up the incident.

The president also noted that the tragic killing of Iranian citizens en route to their homeland to celebrate their greatest holiday is barbaric, and the Iranian state cannot remain indifferent to such an incident.

[Aliyev] I hope that you, as a state, will raise this issue with them [Armenians] in a serious manner. I believe you will do that, because first of all, we have no aircraft like that one in Azerbaijan. Secondly, it would have been a different story had they shot down a plane that was bombing their positions, or if a plane—no matter if it belonged to Azerbaijan, Iran or any other country—while it was attacking Khankendi or any other place. But in this case the aircraft was on a peaceful mission. They should have tracked its course and movements and should have shot at it only after it bombed or strafed them. But, when an aircraft is not dropping bombs and is known to be carrying passengers there is no reason to shoot at it. Is this not a barbaric? [end recording]

## Defense Minister Mamedov Interviewed

*NC3103192494 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1922 GMT 30 Mar 94*

["Text" of interview with Lieutenant General Mamedrafi Mamedov, Azerbaijan defense minister, by Beshir Sherifov; place and date not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Sherifov] We regularly broadcast the Defense Ministry's reports every day. But under existing conditions, it would be more interesting to hear about the situation from the minister himself.

[Mamedov] The situation on our borders is favorable at the present time. We steadfastly maintain our positions, regardless of the agreement we have reached to implement a cease-fire. Meanwhile, we have been taking several measures. A state of mobilization has been declared in the country. Troops are being instructed and trained at all training centers. We wish to establish an army. An army has to be established, regardless of whether or not there is a war. A strong country and state must have a strong and proper army. We are concerning ourselves every hour, every day, and everywhere in the Republic with establishing our army, regardless of the continuing war.

[Sherifov] Is it not the state that is carrying out the work?

[Mamedov] Yes, the work is being carried out by the state. That is our sacred duty.

[Sherifov] Lengthy talks have been held on the implementation of a cease-fire agreement. You have participated in the talks in Moscow in your capacity as defense minister. Furthermore, the leaders of Azerbaijan and Armenia have held talks on the matter. However, a result has not yet been achieved. Can you comment on this matter?

[Mamedov] The defense ministers of Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Russia signed an agreement on 18 February. Paragraph 3 of that agreement said that the Armenians must withdraw their military forces as soon as a cease-fire agreement came into effect. Exchanges of fire were to be halted at 0000 on 1 March and the Armenians were to begin withdrawing their military forces at 1000 in the morning. We acted accordingly and declared a cease-fire at 0000. However, they failed to withdraw their military forces at 1000 on 1 March. Russia's deputy defense minister arrived in Azerbaijan several days later. He did so after visiting Armenia. He informed us of the Armenian view that we must also withdraw from the front line. However, Paragraph 3 says that the Armenians must withdraw and leave our territory. They must go to Daghlyk Karabakh. They were not interested in withdrawing from our territories. That was not what was discussed and agreed upon.

[Sherifov] The territory belongs to us.

[Mamedov] Yes, the territory belongs to us. To where were we expected to withdraw? They must withdraw from our occupied territory. To where were we supposed to withdraw? Consequently, the talks failed to yield a result.

[Sherifov] The Armenians violated the provisions of the cease-fire agreement, as they have done in the past.

[Mamedov] Yes, that is right. They failed to comply with the provisions of that agreement. The chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet called his counterpart several days later. He informed him that he wished to meet him. I was there too. However, I did not attend the talks that were held between the two officials. Later, I heard everything they said in their disclosures. We held talks afterwards. The Armenian officials said that they agreed to comply with the agreement. They also said that they would move to withdraw from our territory within 20 days. I wish to reiterate that they said within 20 days.

However, the chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet objected several days later. Meanwhile, the representatives of the Foreign and Defense Ministries of the two countries were working in Moscow. They were trying to find a peaceful way to resolve the problem. But that is another matter. The Azerbaijan Armed Forces must always serve and defend the homeland, regardless of whether a peaceful situation or a state of war exists. That is our duty.

[Sherifov] Do you mean to say that the process of establishing the Army is continuing.

[Mamedov] Yes, it is. Whether or not peace is established makes no difference. The Republic's Army must be established, and I am confident that it will be established. The Armenians exploited the situation in the past. They reached cease-fire agreements only to reassemble their military forces to launch new attacks to occupy our territory. The current situation is different. They recently tried to attack several times. However, they met with strong resistance and were forced to retreat after suffering casualties. [Sherifov] Cease-fire agreements were violated many times in the past. An effort was made to reach a new agreement each time. Do you have confidence in cease-fire agreements?

[Mamedov] No, but a cease-fire agreement cannot be ruled out completely. The effort made to find a peaceful solution to the war cannot be abandoned. Therefore, an objection cannot be made. The territories that have been occupied through the use of armed force have to be liberated in a similar way. However, that objective may also be achieved through a peaceful approach. That would be appropriate. We do not wish to exploit the opportunities, but that does not apply to the Armenians.

[Sherifov] Do you mean to say that they conclude cease-fire agreements to gain time?

[Mamedov] That is right. That is what they did in the past. They exploited every opportunity to gain time to reorganize their military forces. However, we are aware of all Armenian tactics and do not wish to give them any

opportunity. Had all the people concerned themselves with the war, we would have evicted them from Azerbaijan's territory a long time ago. [passage omitted]

### Milli Majlis Gives Preliminary Approval to Resolution

*NC3103164194 Baku TURAN in English 0902 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Baku (March 30) TURAN—Yesterday by majority of votes Milli Majlis voted for preliminary approval of the resolution "On the events of 20 January."

The Chairman of the session, Rasul Guliyev, said that Milli Majlis will discuss the final variant of the resolution on 31 March at 1200.

However, the deputies were against this resolution. Prime-Minister, Suret Guseynov, was irritated by the position of his opponents and said "I feel sorry because last summer I did not hang you at Baku's central square."

Deputy Etibar Mamedov addressed to President Aliyev: "You and your supporters as well as those who headed Azeri government in 1990 bear responsibility for the events of 20 January."

Under the resolution, only Moscow, the former leadership of Azerbaijan and the Popular Front are responsible for those bloody events. But President Aliyev's supporters, which actively participated there, are not guilty.

"The time will pass and those who will come to power in Baku will annul this resolution since it does not serve Azerbaijan's interests but the interests of the present authorities", said one of the deputies to the speaker of Parliament.

### CIS Official, Russia's Kazimirov Arrive in Baku

*NC3103201194 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televiziyasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Excerpts] A delegation headed by Meditkan Sherinkulov, head of the CIS Interparliamentary Commission, and Vladimir Kazimirov, the Russian president's plenipotentiary representative on Nagorno-Karabakh, arrived in Azerbaijan today.

Afiaddin Dzhalilov, deputy chairman of the Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet; members of the National Assembly; and Russian Ambassador to Azerbaijan Valter Shonia welcomed the guests at Bina Airport. [passage omitted]

[Begin Dzhalilov recording] We highly appraise the visit of this delegation to Azerbaijan. In accordance with a decision of the CIS Interparliamentary Council, Mr. Sherinkulov is heading the delegation of the Interparliamentary Assembly. We sincerely welcome Sherinkulov, [name indistinct], and Kazimirov to Azerbaijan and hope that this will be yet another step toward the peaceful resolution of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict. [end recording]

### Parliament Discusses Worsening Economic Situation

*NC3103205894 Baku TURAN in English 1807 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Baku (March 31) TURAN—Today's session of Milli Majlis is to discuss socio-economic situation in the Republic.

According to independent experts, since January 1994 Azerbaijan's economy was enveloped by hyperinflation. For three months of 1994 the inflation totalled 50-60 per cent, prices increased by more than three times. State budget has yet to be adopted.

At the beginning of March, 1994, Milli Majlis adopted the resolution to hear the account of the government. According to several sources, the Cabinet is not ready to Parliamentary hearings.

## Georgia

### Authorities Regain Control of Parliament

*AU3103140894 Paris AFP in English 1354 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Tbilisi, 31 March (AFP)—Georgian authorities regained control of parliament Thursday a few hours after militiamen occupied the building, apparently in protest at the appointment of a new interior minister, correspondents on the scene said.

An inquiry was opened on the reasons for the assault by some 1,000 protestors, following a call to action by Tbilisi militia chief David Zeikidze, with explanations ranging from a personal vendetta to a possible coup attempt against President Eduard Shevardnadze.

A parliamentary spokesman said the protestors, some of them armed, were opposing the national assembly's appointment of Shota Kviraia as new interior minister a few months after he was first named by Shevardnadze.

The incident could also be linked to December's fierce fight between the ministries of defence and security, when Kviraia was acting as deputy minister of security.

That conflict sprung from the chaos reigning in the country, which is bursting with armed militia, and policy differences over the rebel autonomous republic of Abkhazia.

According to an AFP journalist in the parliament, Shevardnadze was still in the building attending a meeting Thursday afternoon. A quarrel broke out in a corridor when the president, surrounded by bodyguards, tried to calm Zeikidze and his men after they had hit a deputy, the journalist said.

Access to the parliament was blocked and security was tight throughout the capital Thursday afternoon, the anniversary of a 1991 referendum on Georgian independence and the birthday of former president Zviad Gamsakhurdia, who fled office in January 1992 and died last December.

Demonstrations were expected, in particular around Gamsakhurdia's former home on a hill above the capital. Security forces were concerned that any protest could spread down into the city centre.

### Police Official Comments

*NC3103204694 Yerevan SNARK in English 1411 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Tbilisi, 31 MARCH (SNARK)—A group of armed policemen headed by the general David Zaikidze, top official of Tbilisi police headquarters, rushed into the Georgian parliament building this morning. This happened after the deputies approved Shota Kviraya as the Internal Minister. A part of attackers penetrated the conference hall. Fists were put in action, as well as insults heard, addressed to deputies who did not follow the opinion of police head appearing against Kviraya.

After the incident was calmed down, the parliament unanimously qualified this action as an attempted coup and created a special commission to investigate the incident.

As told SNARK the deputy head of Tbilisi police, Mikhail Saladze, who took part in the "assault" of parliament, the attackers "were governed in their actions by interests of struggle with criminals and strengthening of legal order in Tbilisi". "This was the only way to make us be heard", told Saladze.

The 38-year-old major general Shota Kviraya was nominated by the head of Georgia as Internal Minister nearly eight months ago. However, due to the emergency state in the republic, the parliament only today could approve this nomination of the former state-security officer.

### 'Hundreds' of Armed Police Involved

*AU3103145494 Paris AFP in English 1433 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Tbilisi, 31 March (AFP)—Hundreds of policemen, many armed with automatic weapons, stormed into the Georgian parliament Thursday to protest the nomination of a new interior minister they claimed was unfit for the job.

Meanwhile some 3,000 supporters of the late Georgian president Zviad Gamsakhurdia marched down the main avenue of Tbilisi in a demonstration marking what would have been the former leader's 55th birthday.

Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze was in the building during the occupation and convinced General David Zaikidze, the chief of Tbilisi police who led the occupation, to withdraw his men from the parliament, officials said.

Zaikidze is a political ally of Shevardnadze and officials here declined to speculate on his motivation for the protest, which took everyone inside the building, including an AFP correspondent, by surprise.

Deputies subsequently confirmed Shevardnadze's nomination of Shota Kviraya as interior minister and strongly condemned Zaikidze's action, Marina Mamaladze, a presidential spokeswoman, told AFP.

ITAR-TASS news agency quoted one of the policemen who stormed the building as saying that Kviraya was an "unworthy and incompetent man suspected of corruption and mafia links," but gave no further details.

Kviraya was nominated to the post by Shevardnadze earlier this year and the Georgian leader had on several occasions called on deputies to approve the appointment.

The protest initially sparked fears of an attempted coup d'etat, but afterwards more closely resembled one of the many personality clashes fueled by confrontation between armed groups that have plagued the Georgian capital for nearly three years.

The tension was defused after Shevardnadze explained to Zaikidze that his behavior was "incorrect" and persuaded him to lead his men out of the building.

The parliament was later sealed off.

Marina Mamaladze told AFP that a special parliamentary commission would be convened to study Thursday's events.

Meanwhile, the pro-Gamsakhurdia protesters, angered by a sharp fall in living standards and at Shevardnadze's moves toward closer ties with Russia, shouted calls for "independent and free Georgia."

There were several tense scuffles during the protest march and security forces were absent from the streets but the demonstration went off largely peacefully and later dispersed.

Armed groups loyal to Gamsakhurdia launched an offensive against Georgian government troops in the west of the country last autumn following the defeat of Georgian forces in the separatist republic of Abkhazia.

The pro-Gamsakhurdia rebellion was crushed only after Shevardnadze appealed for and received military backing from Russia.

Gamsakhurdia subsequently committed suicide, according to his wife.

### Police Chief Sacked

*AU0104085194 Paris AFP in English 0832 GMT 1 Apr 94*

[Text] Tbilisi, 1 April (AFP)—Tbilisi police chief David Zaikidze has been sacked, the Interior Ministry said Friday [1 April], a day after hundreds of his men stormed the Georgian Parliament.

General Zaikidze, an ally of President Eduard Shevardnadze, was sacked late Thursday, the ministry said.

Hours earlier hundreds of police, many armed with automatic weapons, stormed the parliament building to protest the nomination of a new interior minister they charged was unfit for the job.

Shevardnadze, who was present in the legislature at the time of the incident, persuaded Zaikidze to withdraw his men.

The police chief then blockaded himself in his office at service headquarters, demanding the dismissal of new Interior Minister Shota Kviraya, whose nomination was confirmed Thursday.

Zaikidze, whose dismissal was ordered by Georgia's military court and the Interior and Security Ministries, remained barricaded in his office Friday morning.

### Shevardnadze Address on Incidents

*LD3103223094 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1500 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Address by Eduard Shevardnadze, Georgian head of state and chairman of the Supreme Council, to the Supreme Council in Tbilisi—live]

[Excerpts] I would like to associate myself with the general aspiration and mood and general assessments in connection with today's incident. It is very regrettable in any case, but especially because it happened today [on third anniversary of referendum on Georgia's independence]. It is a pity that Georgia has once again made itself infamous. I have already been told that various versions of events are being transmitted on all radio stations: that the authorities have been overthrown; the Supreme Council has been imprisoned; and what not. I am saying this not only for the benefit of the Supreme Council but for the benefit of the people who voluntarily or maybe unintentionally participated in this incident. I would not say that this could happen spontaneously. I do not think it would be honest if I did not say the following: I have certain claims against Shota Kviraia, against individual leaders, and the collegium of the ministry. You know that the minister had been ill for some time before he met the collegium. Then the leadership of the ministry went to the city police department and an agreement was reached that everyone would do his own job.

There may be certain foundations for claims put forward by Davit Zekidze and then again, there may not. All this requires checking. It may be remarkable by itself when it is alleged that an operation has been carried out and big money has been taken there, but this requires investigation, this should be confirmed. These sort of things are said about other people too.

Why am I saying this? Whatever the background, whatever the nonconformity, whatever the facts in the possession of the head of the police department of the capital city or any other, there is no justification for what has happened here. Actually, this means the ruining of what has been built for years by the 1,000-strong collective.

Any kind of assessment can be given. If we say that this was an attempted coup d'etat—if the Supreme Council says so—the lawyers will try to substantiate this. There may be a different assessment, like an attempt to disperse the Supreme Council, as Batoni [Georgian polite form of address] Mikheil [not further identified] said. Perhaps an armed raid can better explain what has happened. Whatever we call it, it is a shameful stain in our history. [passage omitted]

There has been quite a lot to reprimand Zekidze as well. I think it should be sufficient for the chief of the city police to be fired, that the city prosecutor was killed, and nothing has been revealed so far. The manager of the tobacco factory has been killed and the case has not been revealed so far. Hundreds of examples like this can be listed—a lot of kidnapping and the like. But on the other hand, this is a collective that will have to implement all edicts, and I am sure that the young people who came here today, through being misled or with some other excuses—will accomplish any task given by the state. [passage omitted]

Notwithstanding all the good I have said about the activities of the city police and its head, I believe the Supreme Council has to pass a very serious resolution and a strict assessment. Raiding the Council building is absolutely inadmissible. [passage omitted]

Certain concern has been expressed over the current tense situation on Georgian railways. About six or eight weeks ago I met a delegation of engine drivers. The meeting was very good, humane, friendly. They are having hard times, like everyone, although their salary is five and even six times higher than that of a worker of any other sphere. The only thing we have managed, the only help we have been able to provide, was this: Using some income the railway is getting from transporting various goods we were able to purchase foodstuffs that we sold for coupons to engine drivers and some other leading specialists. This is all the state is capable of doing today.

I know the railway people are listening to this and I want to appeal to them. I want to tell them that to go on strike and stop transport today means that famine will begin in Tbilisi, famine will begin in Kutaisi. I have told you that wheat is being delivered to Georgia. We have overcome

the most serious crisis, but stopping the railway today means dumping the state in even a graver situation than now.

There is a similar movement in the Metropolitan [subway]. We have to help them with everything the city and the state has, but we will not be able to give them what we do not have. Therefore, I appeal to them myself and on behalf of the Supreme Council to cope with the present hardships and not to desert their area of work.

I cannot help speaking about a very delicate issue. We approved a candidacy of the head of our security service yesterday. We put our trust in him. I do not know who declared or how it was declared that he was involved in some agency network. I would like to appeal to everyone. We should not speak of anything of which we are not convinced, of which we have not seen with our own eyes, or about which we have not received any documents about. He was approved by 149 votes in the Supreme Council yesterday. I do not know when and how it was said, but please do not commit a sin. I am not addressing the Council now, I am addressing those who are listening. The same sort of thing is very often said; I mean, they say so much money has been spent there. Of course, such things happen, but as the people say, the one who does commits one sin and the one who blames commits a thousand sins. In a country like ours it is not necessary to further aggravate the situation by blaming each other in excess.

Two deputies have strictly put forward an issue of having an agents' network, the people involved in the network examined. No one is going to conceal its existence. Every state has it. The old authorities had it, and they had it deformed, and this service apparently still exists today. It exists in every democratic state. While a state exists this will be one of its attributes, a source of information. If the Council decides, I will not object to it at all. However, one thing should be taken into consideration. There must be two or three people whom we trust most of all, those who will not take the information out into the streets. [passage omitted] Those who will be chosen for this task should be the conscience of the nation and the people. [passage omitted] If these two or three people find something that is essential and causes a certain suspicion, we will get down to discussing what to do next. [passage omitted]

I cannot help expressing my gratitude to every one of you; to everyone who has given a sound assessment to the incident; to everyone who expressed their reproofs towards the head of state and other structures, because in all this, one subject was guiding, the one that showed that we have to be together in ordeals like this and always because we are building one country, one state. I cannot imagine anyone here who could be against democracy, against constructing a democratic state. We are united by national and people's interests.

We are reminded of the necessity for unity by the Abkhazian tragedy. You know very well that we were ruined by the lack of true unity and elements of treachery. We are reminded of the issue of unity and togetherness by events that took place in Western Georgia. These have been becoming manageable lately and will hopefully become history soon. We are reminded of the issue and the necessity of unity by the hard days we are living in now; I mean, the most difficult social situation, the most complicated situation, hardships every family is facing. And if we remain together we will be able to manage something, we will be able to ease the hard fate of these people and come closer to the days when Georgia's territorial integrity is restored. I am sure this will happen. Whichever road we choose—this one or that one—it will lead us to this great aim provided we are unified.

This does not rule out differences in ideas, heated discussions in the Supreme Council. We will sometimes feel offended or sorry. We can sometimes feel angry. Someone can slam the door. All this is not very good but the Council is unified in the main and essential thing. We are together in a struggle for one, integrated, democratic, and independent Georgia and I would like to thank you for this. Thank you.

## Gamsakhurdia Supporters Hold Rally in Tbilisi

*LD3103194094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1640 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] A crowd of about one thousand supporters of late ex-president of Georgia Zviad Gamsakhurdia held a rally in Tbilisi on Thursday to mark his birthday and three years of Georgian independence.

A big crowd had also gathered outside his home in the city with demonstrators later staging a march along the central street of the Georgian capital. They carried slogans condemning government policies including Georgia's entry into the Commonwealth of Independent States.

No incidents were reported.

## Situation Getting Worse

*LD3103194994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1802 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi March 31 TASS—Since an unauthorized rally staged by supporters of Georgia's ousted President Zviad Gamsakhurdia outside his house in Tbilisi and timed to coincide with the 55th birth anniversary of the late ex-president, the political and social situation in the Georgian capital has got aggravated considerably.

A crowd up to one thousand demonstrators marched on Thursday along the city's central street, Rustaveli Prospekt, passed the parliament building without meeting any resistance from law-enforcement bodies.

Local observers link the march to today's incident in Georgian parliament, when city police chief David Zeikidze and his officers tried to force their way into the conference hall in order to prevent lawmakers from approving Shota Kviraya as Georgian interior minister.

Major-General Zeikidze is known to be an implacable foe of late Gamsakhurdia and his supporters. He has repeatedly used force to disperse unauthorized rallies amd demonstrations in support of the ousted president. But this time, feeling insulted by the actions of the parliament's and Eduard Shevardnadze's guards who kept him off the conference hall, he pointedly refrained from breaking up the demonstration.

Today's protest action by Gamsakhurdia supporters coincided with the 3rd anniversary of the national referendum which declared Georgia's sovereignty and thus triggered the collapse of the former Soviet Union.

### Abkhaz, Georgian Officials Seek End to Conflict

*MK3103122094 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 3*

[Report by Tengiz Pachkoriya in the "NEGA reports" column: "The Georgian-Abkhaz Conflict"]

[Text] Yesterday an enlarged session of the Liberation of Abkhazia organization was held in Tbilisi, attended by deputies of the Georgian parliament elected from the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic, as well as by members of the Abkhaz Government and the Georgian cabinet of ministers. The session discussed problems related to the situation in the Abkhaz Svanetiya and in the Zugdidi region (western Georgia), as well as the convocation and holding in the near future of a congress of Abkhazia's Georgian population forced to leave the zone of conflict (the congress, in the opinion of its organizers, is to proceed under the aegis of Liberation of Abkhazia, an organization that has been operating in Tbilisi for several months now). The session stressed the need to take prompt action for the Georgian side to retain control of the high mountain villages in the Kodor Canyon that have come under massed artillery bombardment by the Abkhaz side. The session criticized the activity of the Georgian leadership and the government of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia (the reference is to the Georgian administration of Abkhazia, temporarily based in Tbilisi). It was suggested that the government of the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia work not in Tbilisi but in Zugdidi, closer to the temporary location of tens of thousands of refugees from Abkhazia. The session also heard demands for the resignation of the incumbent government of the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic based in Tbilisi. Boris Kakubava, Liberation of Abkhazia chairman, noted that in the view of the organization's council and deputies of the Georgian parliament elected from Abkhazia, Georgia's current Vice Prime Minister Tamaz Nadareishvili should combine the post of Georgian vice premier with the duties of chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Abkhaz Autonomous Republic, which, in the opinion of the session participants, will facilitate coordination of actions aimed to bring Abkhazia back under Georgia's jurisdiction and ensure the return of hundreds of thousands of refugees.

### Defense Department Updates Clashes

*NC3103164394 Yerevan SNARK in English 0659 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Tbilisi, 31 March (SNARK)—Clashes between Georgian and Abkhazian detachments are going on at the Kodor ravine and at the Kvemo Lata village (Abkhazian Svanetia), press-service of the Georgian Defense Department told SNARK. Last night positions of Georgian volunteers and frontier guards were under the shelling of artillery and military hardware. Georgian Defense Department informs of the Abkhazian side concentrating the man power and military hardware. 2000 Abkhazian soldiers are attacking the ravine.

The authorities are evacuating civil population.

Commenting on the situation existing in Abkhazia Georgian Vice- Prime Tamaz Nadareishvili told SNARK "the Kodor ravine is the strategically important region. Georgians should prevent Abkhazian capturing of the ravine. If the ravine is lost, Abkhazians will have the direct access to the border with the Northern Caucasus. No need in Russian-Georgian border at the Psou River."

Mr. Vice-Prime also mentioned from without help—man power and military hardware—the Abkhazian side is getting.

## Estonia

### Chief of Defense Headquarters Resigns Effective 18 Apr

*WS3103180994 Tallinn ETA in English 1717 GMT 31 Mar 94*

["News Release"]

[Text] Tallinn, 31 March—Estonian Defence Forces press service informed ETA, on Thursday [31 March], that the head of the Estonian Defence Forces Headquarters Colonel Ants Laaneots has handed in his resignation and his authorities will end on 18 April.

Colonel Laaneots did not wish to comment upon the reasons of his resignation.

Colonel Laaneots will be followed by Colonel Arvo Sirel, who up to now was the deputy head of the Headquarters and head of the 1st, operative department of the Defence Forces Headquarters.

Colonel Sirel (49) was born in Tallinn. He has served in the former Soviet missile troops and graduated from the Moscow Missile Troops Academy. Since 1993 he has been in the service of Estonian Defence Forces Headquarters.

### Defense Forces Will Call 1,000 Conscripts in Spring

*WS3103164194 Tallinn ETA in English 1553 GMT 31 Mar 94*

["News Release"]

[Text] Tallinn, 30 March—Head of the 3d department of Estonian Defence Forces Headquarters Valdo Reiman told ETA that state defence departments intended to call about a thousand Estonians to the regular military service this spring.

Every year there are about 4,000 conscripts in Estonia and they are called to join the Army twice a year, in spring and in autumn.

Less than three thousand conscripts serve in the Estonian Defence Forces, the rest being professionals, volunteers, etc.

Only Estonian citizens that have become 19 years old can be conscribed to military service.

Reiman said that a major problem is constituted by men who have Estonian citizenship, but whose knowledge of Estonian is poor or who do not speak Estonian at all. He added that these people amounted to 10-15 per cent of the defence forces, the largest number of them in Viru and Kalevi battalions that are located at the north-eastern predominantly Russian-speaking region. Head of the Kalev battalion Alar Laneman admitted that Russians were mostly good soldiers and the authorities have tried to distribute them to the units so that they would be forced to speak Estonian to learn the language.

### Rally Declares Support for Position at Talks With Russia

*WS3103143494 Tallinn BNS in English 1202 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Tallinn, 31 Mar, BNS—Participants in a rally in front of the Estonian Foreign Ministry today declared their support to Estonia's position at the bilateral negotiations with Russia.

The rally, called by the Decolonization Initiative Center, adopted a written appeal to the ministry in which the participants demanded that also retired Russian military left Estonia. "From the position adopted by Russia it becomes evident that the attempt to leave the retired military in Estonia is to be dealt with as a continuing for of expansion rather than a humanitarian issue. Our security interests require that the Estonian Government abstained from bending to the pressure from Russia, but remained firm on its so far position. A compromise at the cost of Estonia's national interests must not be allowed," the document says.

Juri Estam, the leader of the Decolonization Initiative, in his address to the meeting was critical of the agreement reached between Latvia and Russia. He said Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt was now trying to convince the naive that the agreement signed between Latvia and Russia was a big achievement. "We don't think so," Estam said.

Estam suggested that Estonia at the talks with Russia should set additional conditions from its side rather than back down on its earlier position.

The head of the Estonian Progressive Party, MP [member of parliament] Ants Erm, said it was namely the big number of retired Russian military rather than the few thousand active service troops still in Estonia that posed a major threat to the country's security. He called the retired military a Fifth Column, whose presence in Estonia Russia now tries to perpetuate by means of written agreements.

MP Mart-Olav Niklus said occupation in disguise was still continuing in Estonia. It ends only after the last Russian soldier leaves the country and weapons are confiscated from non-citizens, he said.

### Oil Tank at Base Said Leaking; Access Denied

*WS3103181394 Tallinn BNS in English 1700 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Tallinn, Mar 31, BNS—Up to eight tons of oil have leaked into a nearby ditch from an oil tank in a former Soviet military base on the Viimsi peninsula outside Tallinn.

The ditch, measuring about 15 by 3 meters, is covered by a 10-centimeter layer of oil, a spokesman at the Estonian Ministry of Environment said.

Work to neutralize the pollution must be started at once, because the leakage both directly threatens the soil, as well as creates the possibility of a later pollution of the underground waters, the spokesman said.

Russian military at the base, however, have refused to allow local environment officials examine the site, because the base has not been turned over to Estonia yet.

Officials from the local Viimsi commune government, as well as the Harjumaa county authorities have received an answer from the military that access to the territory of the base can be granted only by the leadership of Russia's Baltic Sea Fleet in Kaliningrad.

According to information obtained by the Estonian ministry, the fuel tanks at the base are no longer in military use, but have been leased by Petro-N Ltd., a shareholding company closely connected with the company N-Terminaal.

Russian military have said they will themselves take care of the results of the leakage. "But it remains unclear how much time this will take and whether also the polluted soil will be removed," the ministry says.

### About 20 Illegal Immigrants Being Kept Under Internment

*WS3103133994 Tallinn BNS in English 0910 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Tallinn 31 Mar, BNS—Estonia at present keeps about 20 persons under internment, said the country's Minister of Justice, Kaido Kama. He said these persons are being held at a former prison facility in Maardu, outside Tallinn.

The minister said that most of the interned in Estonia were Kurds. He added that this was somewhat surprising, for it is evident that also people of many other nationalities are staying in the country illegally. "Unlike the illegal residents of many other nationalities, the Kurds are not dangerous to society," Kama said.

He said plans to build an internment camp for illegal immigrants at Rummu, a small town to the southwest from Tallinn, were standing behind money problems. At least a few dozen million kroons would be needed to set up the internment camp, he said.

Kama told BNS that a small number of illegal residents had also been expelled from the country. The minister said this was possible only in the cases when the country where the immigrant had come from could be clearly proved.

## Latvia

### Foreign Debt for First Quarter Reported

*LD3103165894 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1500 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] According to approximate calculations by the foreign economic relations department of the Ministry of Finance, the Latvian foreign debt up to 31 March of this year has reached more than $200 million and not $320 million U.S. dollars, as was envisaged. The reduction in the foreign debt is connected to the envisaged foreign country credits not being received during the first quarter of this year.

### New 'Political Union of Economists' Declares Platform

*WS3003143194 Riga DIENA in Latvian 21 Mar 94 pp 1, 6*

[Article by Sanita Upleja: "New Party Established—Political Union of Economists"]

[Text] Riga, 20 March—On Saturday [19 March], a group of economists of the Saeima [parliament] faction "Concord for Latvia," and their supporters gathered at the founding meeting of the Political Union of Economists [TPA]. At the meeting, the program and statutes of the newly established party were adopted. Edvins Kide, leader of the faction, was elected chairman of the board.

Founders of the new party are members of the election bloc "Concord for Latvia—Rebirth for Economy," "Union of Latvian Farmers," "Union of Fishermen," and the "League of Economy," along with representatives of small business. On the part of the Saeima faction "Concord for Latvia," the initiators of the new party were E. Kide, Jevgenijs Zascerinskis, Vilnis Edvins Bresis, Leonards Stass, Janis Lucans, Juris Janeks, and Irena Folkmane. As DIENA has already reported, from now on instead of one Saeima faction, there will be two independent factions.

As the new party leader, E. Kide stated at the meeting that the new party, in contrast with the ruling coalition which represents the interests of big capital and the economic elite, will be situated "in the center of the political spectrum with a tendency to the left" and will represent the interests of mid-sized and small business. E. Kide declared that in the Saeima, TPA wants to represent the middle class, tradespeople, and intellectuals. Regarding similar programmatic options and their position on the political spectrum, TPA has decided to cooperate with the Democratic Party [DP], Democratic Labor Party, Latvian Social-Democratic Workers Party [LSDSP], and trade unions. Also during the municipal elections, TPA will create coalitions with LSDSP and the DP. E. Kide and other speakers repeatedly stressed that TPA is an economic party created on the basis of a club of economists, and that it stands for maintaining state

property in strategic branches, social security, and equal rights for stateless people in the economy.

The TPA program declares that the state president should be elected in a popular election and endowed with greater powers, and expresses the demand to separate legislative and executing power by adopting a law which will not permit individuals to serve as deputies and ministers at the same time. TPA emphasizes the need to achieve mutual understanding among citizens and proposes to issue a declaration of concord for society. Regarding the problem of citizenship, TPA declares that citizenship should be granted to those people who have lived in Latvia for the last 10 years and have a command of the Latvian language, though the last condition does not apply to elderly people and pensioners. In granting citizenship, priority should be given to permanent residents born in Latvia, except military personnel of foreign armies and their descendants, as well as to family members of Latvian citizens.

For those who have been residing in Latvia since 4 May 1990, a steady quota system should be implemented for achieving Latvian citizenship. TPA rejects double citizenship and demands the establishment of a law determining that the state president, Saeima deputies, members of the Cabinet of Ministers and other high-ranking state officials cannot be citizens of other states.

Regarding foreign policy, the TPA is orientated toward a balance between East and West, emphasizing that our Eastern policy should be constructive rather than based on emotions. One of the main tasks of Latvian foreign policy, mentioned in the TPA program, is to normalize relations with Russia and the CIS. As for the security and sovereignty of Latvia, the main conditions for their fortification, in the view of TPA, is active work within the framework of the United Nations, CSCE, and the Partnership for Peace, as well as joining the European Union and the Council of Europe.

In its program, TPA condemns centralized power and supports extending the role of municipal authorities, which should be affirmed in the Constitution. TPA demands that municipal authorities be given the right to initiate legislative acts in parliament. TPA declares that the number of local government electors should be expanded by granting voting rights to all permanent residents of Latvia.

## Official Involved in Isotope Deal Murdered 15 Mar

*WS3003134394 Riga DIENA in Latvian 17 Mar 94 pp 1, 8*

[Article by Janis Domburs: "Voldemars Selga Was Shot"]

[Excerpts] Riga, 16 March—At 2030 on Tuesday, 15 March, on Rusanu street in Riga, businessman Voldemars Selga was killed after suffering two gunshot wounds—chief of the Criminal Police of the Latvian Ministry of Interior Affairs, Laimonis Liepins, reported yesterday. V. Selga died on his way to the hospital, without regaining consciousness.

Assistant General Prosecutor Rita Aksenoka added that, according to police information, the murder took place at a garage where V. Selga kept his car. He was attacked by a lone assailant who fired twice. "There was one eyewitness to the attack, but it must be taken into account that it was already dark, and this may make it difficult to get a precise description of the murderer," said R. Aksenoka.

V. Selga was chairman of the board of the Latvian Reconstruction and Development Bank [LRAB], and the owner of its control packet, as well as the owner of several Latvian companies and joint-ventures. About a year and a half ago, a criminal case was lodged against him for large-scale fraud. On 25 September 1992, V. Selga was arrested and charged with cheating in a deal with the confectionery firm "Uzvara," in a deal worth 50 million rubles. [passage omitted]

A few hours before his death, Selga had called the investigating magistrate.

"At around 1800 on Tuesday, Voldemars Selga called me and asked when I was going to finish the investigation. He told me it has been settled with my administration, although nothing of the kind has taken place," Maigurs Strikis, the investigating officer of the Ministry of Interior Affairs Investigating Department, who is in charge of the case, told us yesterday.

As for the question of what is going to happen to the case, the investigator replied that apparently it will be closed due to the death of the accused. [passage omitted]

## Commander of Border Guards Brigade Resigns

*WS3103143694 Tallinn BNS in English 1202 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Riga 31 Mar, BNS—Commander of Latvian Border Guards Brigade Ivars Redisons has resigned and he does not perform his duties already from 25 March, the brigade press center told BNS.

Presently, the deputy commander, Viktors Sviklis, performs the duties of the commander.

The brigade officials refused to inform BNS about the reasons of Redisons's resignation and name any candidates to the post of commander.

The chief of the Latvian Defence Forces staff, Juris Arness, told BNS that the Defence Forces commander, Dainis Turlais, and Defence Minister Valdis Pavlovskis have accepted Redisons's resignation. They said that Redisons had not named the reasons of his resignation.

### Parliament in Conflict Over Troop Withdrawal

*PM3103130094 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 3*

[Report by Sergey Knyazkov: "No One Wanted To Give In. Serious Battles in Latvian Parliament Over Ratification of Agreement on Russian Troop Withdrawal"]

[Text] As you know, the Russian and Latvian state delegations initialed an agreement 15 March regarding the Russian troop withdrawal from this Baltic Republic before 31 August 1994. However, it will be extremely difficult to ratify this agreement in the Latvian parliament. Two of the Saeima's eight factions—the Movement for National Independence and the "Fatherland and Freedom" Association, holding 21 out of 100 seats—are taking a hard-line stance.

Deputies from the "Fatherland and Freedom" faction are taking the most hard-line stance. They are proposing to poll citizens 29 May—the day of the local self-government elections—and find out their view of the demand that the Russian radar at Skrunde should cease to operate at the same time as the troop withdrawal (and not remain in the Republic for another four years' work followed by the 18 months allocated for it to be dismantled, as envisaged by the agreement initialed by the Russian and Latvian delegations).

At first glance, there are more people in the Latvian parliament who are in favor of a civilized Russian troop withdrawal from the Republic, but the methods they are using in an endeavor to win public support evoke at the least perplexity. Thus, according to RIA, Ludis Pavilonis, deputy head of the Latvian Government office supervising the Russian Army withdrawal, speaking on national television, said that the pace of the Russian troop withdrawal from Latvia has been appreciably stepped up of late. The RIA report also claimed, citing the Northwestern Group of Forces [NWGF] Press Center, that, owing to the success of the interstate talks and mindful of Latvian leaders' wishes, the command of the NWGF has allegedly found it possible to hand over to the Latvians by 1 April 1994 the military airfields at Tukums, Daugavpils, and Jekabpils, along with the Riga and Daugavpils aviation-engineering schools' stock. Actually, neither of these reports is accurate. I was told by Colonel Golin, head of the NWGF Press Center, that there is no question of the pace of the Russian troop withdrawal from Latvia being speeded up, nor has the press center made any statements regarding actions of goodwill on the part of the NWGF command in connection with 1 April, if only because all these installations...have already been handed to the Latvians either prior to 1 March or during the first few days of March....

At the same time, the Latvian Government backed the package of agreements with Russia. As its 29 March statement indicates, the cabinet of ministers sees the speediest signing of the documents and their ratification by the Saeima as the "only real guarantee of the Russian troops being withdrawn from Latvian territory by 31 August this year."

### Deputies Set Rules on Media Use During Local Elections

*WS3103200694 Tallinn BNS in English 1835 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Riga, Mar 31, BNS—Latvian lawmakers approved rules Thursday [31 March] on the use of the media in local election race providing that one candidate from a list is entitled for free of charge campaign addresses in state radio and television.

Radio and television management should tell the audience before or after each address who paid for the broadcasting time, under the law.

The regulations do not refer to coverage of facts in direct broadcasts and news programs.

In addition, the parliament decided that a day before the elections and on the election day radio and TV broadcasts should not contain results of opinion polls on the popularity of political parties and election alliances.

The local government elections are scheduled for May 28.

## Lithuania

### World Bank To Continue Credits, Draft New Projects

*WS3103100594 Vilnius TIESA in Lithuanian 24 Mar 94 No. 57 p 1*

[BNS report: "World Bank Trusts Lithuanian Government"]

[Text] VILNIUS, 23 Mar (BNS)—"The World Bank trusts the Lithuanian Government and its policy, even though not everything is well there," stated L. (Jeurling), World Bank representative in the Baltic states. According to him, the World Bank is determined to extend new credits, the first of which will be for the restructuring of the banking and finance system.

At a press conference on Wednesday [23 March], L. Jeurling denied the rumor that the World Bank had ceased the preparation of a new loan for the finance sector. According to him, the key goal of the bank is to prepare the environment for all foreign credits coming into the country. The reorganization of the central and commercial banks is a long process, and the World Bank has decided not to wait until the entire system changes. The World Bank will select a few, in his opinion, most suitable commercial banks and participate in lending World Bank finances to enterprises.

L. Jeurling maintained that the activities of the World Bank in Lithuania were the most dynamic among

former USSR countries. Currently, the World Bank is actively working on five or six new credit projects to finance important efforts in agriculture, energy, finance, and environmental protection (a water and waste treatment plant in Klaipeda), as well as in construction.

## Committee Chief Views Economic Reform Tasks

*WS3103143094 Vilnius TIESA in Lithuanian*
*24 Mar 94 No. 57 p 6*

[Article by Vytautas Zimnickas, chairman of the Lithuanian Seimas Economic Committee: "Key Tasks"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Reform practices in other countries show that the difficulties Lithuania's population is facing today are unavoidable during transitional periods. However, a stabilization of production and the declining living standards is already noticeable. The government managed to curb inflation in late 1993—the key problem of the developing crisis.

Therefore, I dare maintain that it is high time to begin the restoration and restructuring of the Lithuanian economy. It is very important to strengthen economic entities and orient them toward production, create dynamic businesses, and an efficient stratum of owners in this stage.

Currently, important processes are going on in the country's economy.

The creation of small- and medium-sized enterprises has gathered momentum, and they will undoubtedly have an important place in Lithuania's economy. However, it would be incorrect to think that the chaotic emergence of small and medium-sized businesses alone will make the country's priority industries competitive on the world market. Therefore, first of all, the government must make its choice, one way or another, concerning the "Program for Industrial Restructuring and Changing Specialization of Large Enterprises," which the Industry and Trade Ministry somehow managed to draft. One must immediately say, however, that this long-awaited program is only a compilation of theoretical statements. The program lacks a clear-cut expression. It is restricted to inarticulate theoretical postulates and propaganda. I suppose that this program must be promptly specified so as to make clear the development of which industries and enterprises will attract foreign investments, and which of them will be subject to protectionism, if you like. We must decide which strategy to follow, although the ways of its implementation may run counter to the interests of separate social groups.

Speaking about other development programs for separate industries, which are being prepared or which have already been adopted, it must be noted that all of them are being drafted idly, as if fearing their execution and, which is even worse, the responsibility of their ruination. Judging by the conclusions of the preliminary analysis, one can claim that the coordination of the aforementioned programs is insufficient and the resources necessary for their implementation are not balanced.

I fully agree with the prime minister's idea expressed in a radio program on 2 March, when he said that ministries must pass from the direct management of enterprises over to the creation of conditions for their activities. They must primarily support exporting enterprises. Finally, programs are necessary for ministries themselves to understand clearly what and how they are doing. I would like to mention the "National Program for the Development of Transportation in the Republic of Lithuania" adopted by the government as a positive example. Although I cannot agree with all of its principles, this program at least clearly outlines the position of the ministry and the government on this issue. [passage omitted]

Speaking about the recently more heated debates on the tax system, I must say that Lithuania has accomplished much in restructuring its legal system. The laws on the incomes of physical persons, general and individual excise duties, customs duties, and market-places have been adopted. However, normative documents on taxes are constantly upgraded and amended, which evokes rightful reprimands for the lack of stability. The most prominent example of irresponsible decisions is the law on the VAT, adopted in late December 1993. Although the law has not yet come into force, its authors and the government are already proposing to amend it. Meanwhile, the same remarks were made when discussing this draft law.

The current key issue in this sphere is the draft law on the principles of the tax system and the coordination of all tax laws.

The package of tax laws is closely linked with investment, which is the essential factor for economic development. Privileges for duties on imported resources and export products should be one of the key factors for promoting exports and foreign investments. The policy of loans, guarantees, restrictions, tariffs, and, certainly, national currency should serve this purpose. The current perceptible tendency is to increase taxes, although the latter must be collected more efficiently from those who do not pay them at all or conceal part of their incomes.

The current most important tasks in economic reform are the following:

—To immediately conclude the preparation of, correct, and adopt development and restructuring programs for all industries; to organize the activities of the Executive Branch strictly in line with these programs;

— To set up the State Property Agency; the Seimas [parliament] has already submitted its draft resolution on this issue;

— To discuss the draft law on stock companies in the Seimas as an emergency issue;

— To form a socially oriented market (by way of upgrading the tax system, the law on bankruptcies, and so on);

— To speed up privatization for investment coupons and immediately pass over to a qualitatively new stage in privatization;

— To act more energetically in attracting foreign investments; to establish the Foreign Investment Agency and the banking system to this end;

— To speed up the creation of the legal basis for taxes and other related issues; to adopt the law on the principles of the tax system in the first place;

— To normalize the economic and financial situation in industry, regulate inflation, and support social groups that are its greatest victims;

— To upgrade the structure of management and seek its greater efficiency;

— To make key production competitive on the Western market;

— To ensure the preservation of people's residential environment while restructuring industry;

— To resolve crime problems that are having a negative effect on economic reform and halting foreign investments;

— To prepare a program for the provision of resources (particularly in the energy system) by projecting their alternative sources;

— To work out a program for the development of tourism;

— To create a common Baltic market, remove customs houses between the Baltic states, and facilitate the movement of labor, capital, and goods among them.

### Denies Plans To Resign

*WS3103093094 Vilnius TIESA in Lithuanian 25 Mar 94 No. 58 p 2*

[Interview with Seimas Economic Committee Chairman Vytautas Zimnickas by Aldona Svirbutaviciute in Vilnius; date not given: "Economic Committee Chairman Does Not Intend To Resign"—questions published in boldface; first paragraph is TIESA introduction]

[Text] Economy Minister Julius Veselka has resigned. Does Seimas [parliament] Economic Committee Chairman Vytautas Zimnickas intend to follow his example? The chairman has explained this in his interview with TIESA.

[Svirbutaviciute] You, as well as Minister J. Veselka, voted against the law on litas reliability in the Seimas. Do you also intend to resign?

[Zimnickas] This law was submitted to the Seimas by the government. I think that the Cabinet of Ministers had to be of a unanimous opinion. This law was supervised by the Seimas Budget and the Finance Committee rather than the Economic Committee. Certainly, we also discussed and analyzed it. I may have had to resign in line with political etiquette, because my opinion differed from that of the government and the Seimas majority. In general, resigning is no problem.

[Svirbutaviciute] Were there any people in the majority [Lithuanian Democratic Labor Party] faction who shared your opinion that the litas should not be pegged to any currency?

[Zimnickas] I suppose that the position of economists in our faction is unanimous. None of us approved of this move, and we expressed that by voting against or abstaining. We believed that currently there was no immediate necessity to adopt such a law. The bank performs its functions entrusted to it with success. The litas has become stable against other currencies for over half a year. It is backed either by gold reserves or other convertible currencies. I know that some people are going to appeal this law to the Constitutional Court because it contains certain contradictions.

[Svirbutaviciute] So, the law has been adopted and it must now be enacted.

[Zimnickas] Of course. Moreover, I voted for separate articles of this law and submitted proposals so as to adopt optimal decisions. We will have to enact it. That is that!

[Svirbutaviciute] Was it really necessary to adopt this law now?

[Zimnickas] We began to talk about its advantage and necessity when the situation was unstable. Certainly, the law was essential last fall. However, the discussion has become protracted, while the situation in the bank has stabilized.

[Svirbutaviciute] How do you imagine Deputy J. Veselka's role in the Seimas?

[Zimnickas] I think that it will be beneficial for Lithuania's economy. I wish an opposition emerged in our faction.

[Svirbutaviciute] You, as well as J. Veselka, came to the Seimas as members of the Forum of Lithuania's Future. Some hopes concerning more radical moves in the legislature and the Democratic Labor Party faction itself are pinned on J. Veselka's return to the Seimas.

[Zimnickas] I am for constructive work. There are almost no politics in our Economic Committee; nor does the opposition submit politically biased proposals. We engage in essential discussions and often forget about our party membership. We argue about cardinal matters. I am pleased that we work in this way. I suppose that J. Veselka will also manage to successfully join our work and convey his knowledge and experience for the benefit of Lithuania's economy.

### Russia Refuses To Return Lithuanian Archives

*LD0104081994 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Russia has no legal and historical grounds to return to Lithuania archives, which are at present in the Russian Federation, and sees no grounds to form a negotiating commission to solve this problem, maintains Nikolay Obertyshev, the ambassador of the Russian Federation to Lithuania.

Lithuanian Deputy Foreign Minister Albinas Januska, who met with the Russian diplomat, regards this step by Russia as a political ploy and maintains that such stance of the neighboring state is completely unacceptable to Lithuania, as it is contrary to the agreement between the governments of Lithuania and Russia and to the international archival principle that archives must be kept where they are compiled. According to Albinas Januska, Lithuania reserves the right to raise the issue of the return of the archives in negotiations with Russia.

### Committee Bans Commerce at Defense, Interior Ministries

*WS3103085394 Vilnius ELTA in Lithuanian 1123 GMT 29 Mar 94*

[Text] The Lithuanian Seimas [parliament] National Security Committee has adopted a decision banning any commercial activities at the Ministries of National Defense and the Interior, except in cases subject to law.

This decision was prompted by the proceedings on the purchase of arms for the National Defense Ministry from Russia instituted by the Lithuanian Prosecutor General's Office. With the investigation underway, searches were carried out at the apartments of former Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius and other top ministry officials.

Vytautas Petkevicius, chairman of the Seimas National Security Committee, has stated at a press conference that as long as the ministries themselves engage in arms purchases, corruption will not be prevented. The National Security Committee is working on a draft law under which relevant offices will be supplied with arms by a special institution—the Lithuanian Arms Fund.

### Security Chief on Army, Intelligence Roles

*PM3103155194 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 7*

[Interview with Vytautas Petkevicius, chairman of the Lithuanian Seimas National Security Committee, by Vladimiras Zarovskis under the "Secrets of Special Services" rubric; in Vilnius, date not given: "Let's Steal the Blueprint. But What Shall We Do with It?"]

[Text] Vilnius—Three years ago Vytautas Petkevicius was really being threatened, but he was writing his stories and novels. Today Petkevicius is chairman of the Lithuanian Seimas National Security Committee, and not just a well-known writer and storyteller. Vladimiras Zarovskis, our own correspondent in the Lithuanian Republic, talked with Vytautas Petkevicius about the KGB archives which have disappeared, a little about spies, and a little more about corruption and crime in the Army, and about the fact that people must not be deceived.

[Zarovskis] Why did you exchange a writer's desk for the hectic Seimas and a chairman's uncomfortable chair?

[Petkevicius] I was one of the initiators of the Lithuanian Democratic Labor Party's transformation into an opposition party after March 1990. The party won the elections to the Seimas 18 months ago only because it was an opposition party. Only I did not become a deputy on the party list but won in a single-seat electoral district. As regards the National Security Committee, the work on it is very interesting for me as a writer. At the time of the Khrushchev thaw I wrote the novel "Of Bread, Love, and the Rifle," which is a first-person narrative about postwar Lithuania. My opponents set about proving that its hero—who was myself—was an employee of the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs, a Chekist, etc. Therefore I had to prove that all this was not so. I won that case even in court.

[Zarovskis] Right after March 1990 Lithuanian state security became the province of right-wingers. How did they greet you, who are very left-wing?

[Petkevicius] There was no such service. There were three or four scatterbrains, with whom it was impossible to reach agreement. National security had been broken up. Previously, there had been very modern equipment in Lithuania. It was squandered. They deliberately destroyed national security from March 1990. Incompetent people who did not understand the business were set up as leaders. One was a postgraduate dropout, another did not even have secondary education, yet another was a specialist in land improvement. Lithuania was left without cover, and people descended on it and did what they liked. Top-class specialists who had been trained to combat foreign currency speculators, terrorists, and spies worked in the old Lithuanian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] KGB. Little by little we are vetting them and inviting them to work.

[Zarovskis] Your committee also monitors the Army. Lithuanian newspapers write about purchases of Russian arms, helicopters, and ships for Lithuania's army through some Russian-Lithuanian front firms, which have done great harm to the Republic.

[Petkevicius] I can refute nothing of what Lithuanian newspapers have written about thefts, currency machinations, and financial speculation in the Army, the Voluntary Territorial Protection Service, and national security. Mass searches of people engaged in buying weapons, right up to the former minister of territorial protection, were carried out in Lithuania recently. The parliament of independent Lithuania has worked for three years without adopting a single law on the Army, just a decision to create it. The Army itself does not even

have regulations, let alone a military doctrine. Imagine: A person is recruited for the Army under civil legislation. If he has sold an assault rifle or a pistol for drink, he cannot be punished as a soldier or an officer but only as a civilian who has lost a production tool. This is why so many weapons have flowed into the criminal world. Moreover, even people with two or three convictions have gotten into the power structures, particularly the Voluntary Territorial Protection Service. We have been forced to start recertification, to collect up the rifles and carbines that they were keeping at home, and to "test-fire" them. According to the rules, it is necessary to have two spent cases from each gun in order to verify, if necessary, whether it has been involved in a crime. But even this has not been done in the three years that the Army and the Voluntary Service have existed, and the number of murders involving weapons is growing yearly.

The necessary civilian control over servicemen is now being introduced. We have to combat irregular relationships, thieving, and crime in the Army. It is offensive. I traveled around the Republic with a commission, and we received Russian Army installations which were clean, generally in order, and had been prepared for handover, but our people came along, and two months later it was impossible to find anything anymore. Everything had been looted and smashed, and even the central heating radiators had been taken. Is it really possible to do this? We want to call these people to order—and we will.

[Zarovskis] Every army has a so-called likely enemy. Does Lithuania?

[Petkevicius] Ours is a small state, and we do not intend and would not be able to fight anyone. The Lithuanian Army already exists, and thousands of people serve in it, and it must be disciplined and well armed. But it must be of such a size that the people will be able to maintain it. It is needed for support and the elimination of some conflicts. Our concept of military doctrine is the Swiss one: resistance by the whole people. If not with weapons, then through disobedience, etc. We can be part of the NATO structure, for a company—no more—to participate in international actions. Lithuania has already subscribed to the NATO "Partnership for Peace" program, but that is, rather, a political step.

[Zarovskis] What about the archives of the former Lithuanian SSR KGB? They could be used both by Russia and by Lithuania itself.

[Petkevicius] Some of the documents were burned in the inner courtyard of the "Lithuanian SSR" KGB, and some were taken away to Ulyanovsk and Tomsk. Negotiations for their return have been going on for more than a year. I do not believe, however, that we will live to see the day. Russia will not give up the archives, since the state is interested in keeping its agents in any republic of the former USSR, including Lithuania. They will not be of any special use to us if they do return. In our situation the declassification of these files could have most dreadful consequences. In the times of Landsbergis' rule the entire people shuddered, particularly the intelligentsia: Rogues and adventurers had been admitted to the KGB archives, and they had stolen their own files, picked up other people's, and then started blackmailing them. Ten sacks of documents were stolen in the space of two years, but we have found them. An archives administration has been set up on our initiative, and a center for the study of genocide and a special library for those who wish to acquaint themselves with their own file are being set up. Those who wish to can now find out the reason for being in disfavor with the government, and we give answers to requests—except, of course, for operational information. It will not be possible to find out who "ratted" on them.

[Zarovskis] How will I be able to show gratitude to my "friend"?...

[Petkevicius] In Lithuania everyone was rehabilitated at the beginning of the nineties, including those who participated in mass executions of Jews. We are now ashamed before the whole world. The genocide center must work the same way as the de-Nazification army in postwar Germany. This must be tackled by jurists and historians, because we have had enough of politicians poking about in this dirty business. They must not. The use of such archives by politicians for political purposes is criminal. In all democratic countries there is a deadline for releasing documents, otherwise political vengeance is at once followed by human vengeance—which is ruinous for the state and the people.

[Zarovskis] Are there many Lithuanian spies abroad—in CIS countries, for example?

[Petkevicius] Well, there may be some self-styled spies. What is more, I will say that we have no such department as intelligence at all. What intelligence can be gotten abroad? So we steal some blueprint. What are we going to do with it? Enterprises may engage in economic espionage, but even then hardly at all.

## Social Security Agreement With Latvia Ratified

*WS3103201294 Tallinn BNS in English 1835 GMT 31 Mar 94*

[Text] Vilnius, Mar 31, BNS—The Lithuanian parliament on Thursday [31 March] ratified an agreement between the governments of Lithuania and Latvia on cooperation in the field of social security.

The accord was signed in Vilnius last December by Lithuanian Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius and his Latvian counterpart Valdis Birkavs.

The agreement will come into effect when the two countries exchange ratification documents.

The agreement provides for equal social security rights to citizens of both countries who permanently live or have a labor contract in the other country.